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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

**FBIS-SOV-94-212
Wednesday
2 November 1994**

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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

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2 November 1994

NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

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Interparliamentary Assembly Session Ends

MM0111152594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 First Edition p 1

[Report by Sergey Alekhin: "St. Petersburg: Interparliamentary Week"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The international parliamentary week, which began with an off-site session of the Council of Europe committee discussing matters pertaining to Russia's admission to this organization, ended in St. Petersburg with the fifth plenary session of the Interparliamentary Assembly of CIS States.

Parliamentary delegations from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belorussia [Belarus], Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia [Kyrgyzstan], Moldavia [Moldova], the Russian Federation, and Tajikistan took part in the session. A Ukrainian parliamentary delegation took part as an observer.

There were 16 items on the session agenda, and work was approved on the first section of a model civil code for CIS states to regulate a unified economic approach toward defining the legal position of economic companies and partnerships and rights of ownership and toward standardizing norms and regulations governing commercial transactions, contracts, and securities. Coordinated approaches were formulated as regards the organization of official statistics in the Commonwealth states and a recommended legislative act "On State Statistics" was adopted. The parliamentary delegations deemed it necessary to pursue a coordinated policy in protecting citizens' social rights.

The Assembly approved a Charter of Social Rights and Guarantees for Citizens of the Independent States and adopted a model act "On the Minimum Consumer Budget."

A draft statute "On the Group of Military Observers and Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the CIS" was examined in the Tauride Palace and sent off for adoption by the Council of Heads of State; it represents the model for collective peacekeeping within the Commonwealth's borders and helps stabilize interstate and interethnic relations. Agreement was also reached on cooperation between the Commonwealth countries in the sphere of culture, art, and exchange of cultural assets. The parliaments were asked to take steps in line with each state's legislative practice to restore mutual exchange of cultural assets in line with UNESCO's 1976 recommendations.

The parliamentary delegations noted with satisfaction Ukraine's desire to become a full-fledged member of the Interparliamentary Assembly.

Gives RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA Publishing Rights

MM0111144994 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Interparliamentary Assembly: New Move Toward Integration"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A routine session of the CIS states' Interparliamentary Assembly Council has ended in St. Petersburg.

Interparliamentary Assembly Chairman V. Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council, who directed the parliamentarians' latest meeting, noted the constructive nature of the debate and the importance of the adopted decisions for the future of the CIS.

The recent meeting in Moscow of the CIS heads of state, which adopted a decision to set up the Interstate Economic Committee, also affected the work of the forum in St. Petersburg.

A coordination plan for the Interparliamentary Assembly's activity of providing support for the Commonwealth's integrationist development in 1994-1995 was examined and ratified. Among the other decisions I would like to point out the Statute "On the Group of Military Observers and Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the Commonwealth of Independent States." This document has been discussed thoroughly by commissions and will be submitted to the Council of Heads of State. The October assembly approved the work on the first section of the model Civil Code regulating the unified economic approach to various problems that arise in relations between states that yesterday formed a unified whole.

Within the framework of the plenary session of the Interparliamentary Assembly a contract was signed on cooperation between the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA editorial office and the Interparliamentary Assembly. The newspaper won the exclusive right to publish Interparliamentary Assembly material and brief the public at large in the Commonwealth countries on parliamentarians' work. RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA also intends to cover the work of the CIS states' national parliaments. [An unattributed report on page 1 of Moscow PRAVDA 1 November under the headline "RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA Becomes Interparliamentary" reads, in full: "RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA has become the official newspaper of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly [IPA]—the IPA adopted such a decision Friday evening. An IPA insert will be published in RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA every two weeks."]

We will discuss the Interparliamentary Assembly session in more detail in the next issue of our newspaper. Today we carry comments from the international conference of veterans of the last wartime draft conducted within the Interparliamentary Assembly framework.

Ministry Official Rejects Nazarbayev Proposal on Union

LD0111191094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Leonid Drachevskiy, director of the CIS Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry,

told Interfax in Moscow on Tuesday that Russia and other CIS countries were not yet ready to create a Euro-Asian union, which was initiated by Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev.

He addressed a meeting in the Russian Foreign Ministry, involving representatives of public organizations, members of the Russian delegations at the talks with CIS countries, as well as staff- members of the ministries and departments concerned.

Drachevskiy said "the Commonwealth countries are advancing towards a sort of a community, be it a union or something else." "But haste is out of place here," he said.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 2 Nov

LD0211061794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0550
GMT 2 Nov 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 2 TASS—NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on Boris Yeltsin's visit to Kiev.

The newspaper maintains that "according to informed sources, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, most probably, will not make a scheduled visit to Kiev in the second half of November.

"The Russian side is inclining to the opinion that it is inadvisable to hold a 'summit' in the light of an utter lack of progress at the bilateral talks. Thus, President Leonid Kuchma will get a fine chance to discuss Russo-Ukrainian relations with Bill Clinton..."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on a cabinet reshuffle options:

"Various options for cabinet changes are being examined in the Moscow corridors of power. The most unexpected will be the name of a new finance minister, although the entire political community of Moscow knows this person by sight and by name.

"There is every indication that the ministerial career of Andrey Kozyrev is drawing to an end. Although, psychologically, our president is not yet ready for such a decision, all signs of the minister's impending resignation are manifest.

"An issue concerning Pavel Grachev is the most unclear. Boris Yeltsin's intention to dismiss Grachev grew ripe

back in summer and it was in this connection that, analysts suppose, the Defence Ministry ceased encroaching on the property of the headquarters of the CIS joint armed forces on Leningrad Avenue... But sharp attacks on Grachev by radicals have slowed down this process rather than expedite it.

"There is rumour that Mikhail Poltoranin will return to the post of vice-premier in charge of mass media. But, most likely, the rumour has been initiated by Poltoranin himself."

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI on price indexes:

"Since the beginning of the year, consumer prices in Russia have risen by 140 percent, those for foodstuffs by 110 percent, non-food items by 120 percent and paid services to the population by 530 percent."

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI on life expectancy in Russia:

"According to the Russian State Committee for Statistics, men's average expectancy of life in Russia has diminished by 3.6 years over the past 12 months and is 59.1 years and that of women decreased by two years and is 72.1 years."

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA carries a statement by participants in a meeting between Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and veterans of the great patriotic war and the armed forces, heroes of the Soviet Union and the bearers of the Orders of Glory.

The statement reads in particular: "We state a resolute 'no' to any anti-army campaign. To protect the Russian Army from allegations is our common duty which we must discharge for the sake of the future of our children, for the sake of tranquility and happiness and for the sake of peace in our venerable and beautiful land."

PRAVDA runs an interview with Abkhazian parliament chief Vladislav Ardzinba, who emphasised: "The role of Russia as a great state is to help small nationalities to live without pressure from the outside. The people of Abkhazia have the most friendly attitude to Russia. They should not be rejected only because they are not numerous."

TRUD carries an interview with Vladimir Kadannikov, president of the Avtovaz joint-stock company, who maintains that "rumours about an impending bankruptcy of the Vaz (Volzhsky car factory) are grossly exaggerated."

Reportage on Kozyrev Visit to Syria
Foreign Minister Arrives

LD0111195094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1942
GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beirut November 1 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev came to Damascus from Casablanca on Tuesday to boost Syrian-Israeli peace talks. Another purpose of his mission to Syria is to seek ways to recoup Mideast debts to Russia.

In Casablanca, Kozyrev headed a Russian delegation to an international conference on economic development of Mideast and North-African countries.

Kozyrev is the first Russian foreign minister who has come to Syria since the USSR collapsed in 1991.

Upcoming Talks Viewed

LD0111213394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2048
GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Dmitriy Gorkhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Damascus November 1 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev arrived here today on a working visit to meet Syrian leaders for negotiations.

Kozyrev told correspondents that the talks will focus on bilateral cooperation and the Mid-Eastern peace process. In his opinion, the Mideastern peace process cannot be finalized without settlement of Syrian-Israeli relations. Certain progress has been achieved in other areas of the peace process and the Syrian-Israeli area is no less important. Kozyrev stressed there cannot be comprehensive peace without Syria bearing in mind the role of that state in the region. He also noted that Russia and the United States, being co-sponsors of the Mideastern peace process, are verifying their stands.

In the words of the Russian foreign minister, he had had meetings with Israeli leaders Yitzhaq Rabin and Shim'on Peres. They had intensive contacts in Casablanca and al-Aqaba. Now Russia wants to hear the Syrian opinion of prospects for movement towards peace, said Kozyrev.

In his turn Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' said that Damascus welcomes the visit of Andrey Kozyrev. They hope that the upcoming negotiations will be efficient and constructive for peace process. They hope to exchange opinion on the achievements in the process and things that are still to be done, including in the sphere of Syrian-Israeli relations. The sides will also discuss bilateral relations in various spheres and prospects for their development, said Al-Shar'.

Holds Talks With Syria's al-Shar'

LD0211120094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1117
GMT 2 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Dmitriy Gorkhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Damascus November 2 TASS—The Middle East peace process was the main subject of discussion at talks held here on Wednesday between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and his Syrian counterpart Faruq al-Shar'.

Kozyrev, who arrived here on Tuesday for a working visit, and his Syrian counterpart focused on prospects for headway on the Syrian-Israeli aspect, the key one, of a political settlement of the Mideast conflict.

As Kozyrev emphasised at the beginning of his visit to Damascus, the peace process in the region will not be complete and finalised without Syria's participation. Now that progress on other aspects of the Mideast peace process has begun to show, it is very important that there be headway in relations between Israel and Syria as well. Russia, which is a co-sponsor of the Middle East peace process makes active efforts to promote a settlement of the conflict, coordinating diplomatic moves with the other co-sponsor, the United States.

During the recent signing of the treaty between Jordan and Israel in the Jordanian city of al-Aqaba and at the Casablanca international conference on the economic development of Middle East and North African countries, Kozyrev had met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. In this context, the talks in Damascus are particularly topical, since they make it possible to compare the positions of all the participants in the peace negotiations.

Russian-Syrian relations, which have always been close and which can now receive a new impulse, figured importantly in the conversation between the two foreign ministers.

On Wednesday afternoon Kozyrev is to be received by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Chernomyrdin Calls Off Polish Visit, News Conference

LD0111150294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 1401 GMT on 1 November transmits an ITAR-TASS correspondent's report, datelined Moscow, 1 November, on the cancelling by Moscow of a news conference which Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was to hold for Polish journalists today before his planned visit to Poland 3-4 November, due to what Moscow calls "a failure on the part of the Polish authorities to give a satisfactory answer concerning the incident involving Russian citizens at a Warsaw train station." The Russian Government press service says today in an official statement that "the Russian side expects Warsaw to make an appropriate and detailed reply to the questions raised so that proper conditions can be created for the Russian prime minister's visit to Poland to take place as planned," the ITAR-TASS correspondent reports.

The report concludes by noting that it is clear Moscow insists on a particularly thorough investigation of the incident on the eve of the prime minister's visit, which is "fully in keeping with international diplomatic practice" in such circumstances.

3 Nov Visit Postponed

LD0111190294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1822 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 1 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin has decided to postpone his visit to Poland scheduled for 3 November, government press service spokesman Valentin Sergeyev confirmed to an ITAR-TASS correspondent. The decision was prompted by the fact that the Russian side still has not received an official reaction to the incident of 23 October at the Warsaw train station involving Russian citizens being beaten and detained by the Polish police.

The new date of the visit will depend on the stand taken by the Polish authorities, Sergeyev said.

Spokesman on Visit Postponement

LD0211102194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0934 GMT 2 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Andrey Shtorzh]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 2 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—The postponement of Viktor Chernomyrdin's visit to Poland is directly linked to the absence of a response and apology from the Polish side in connection with the recent beating of Russian citizens at a Warsaw train station, ITAR-TASS was told today by Grigoriy Karasin, director of the information and press department of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He said that so far he has no knowledge of a message on this matter which the Polish side says was sent yesterday evening to Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev by his Polish counterpart Andrzej Olechowski.

"Viktor Chernomyrdin's decision to postpone his visit to Poland was a difficult one," Grigoriy Karasin stressed. "The absence of an appropriate and comprehensive response satisfactory to the Russian side concerning the details and culprits of the incident, as well as public apologies over the serious and outrageous violence against Russian citizens at the Warsaw train station has directly influenced the prime minister's position."

The official spokesman for the Russian foreign ministry also denied reports which are appearing in the Polish press saying that the postponement of Viktor Chernomyrdin's visit is allegedly connected with serious differences between the sides on many issues which were to have been discussed in Warsaw by the Russian and Polish prime ministers. "You should not lay the blame in

the wrong quarter," Karasin stressed. "It was this incident at the Warsaw train station which was the key factor in deciding the position of the head of the Russian Government."

'Many Issues in Dispute' with Poland

LD0111195294 Warsaw TVP Television First Program Network in Polish 1830 GMT 1 Nov 94

[Relayed by Warsaw TV Polonia Network]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The head of the press service of the Russian prime minister has at the last minute called off the meeting between Polish journalists and Chernomyrdin before the latter's visit to Warsaw planned for the day after tomorrow. Sergeyev said that the visit is in doubt until the Russians are offered an apology for the incident at the Warsaw east railroad station and those guilty of heating up Russian tourists are punished. [passage omitted]

[Laskowski] The Russians admitted that the incident at the Warsaw east railroad station is not the only problem. There are serious discrepancies in many matters and they were to be discussed by Victor Chernomyrdin and Waldemar Pawlak and representatives of the Polish government. Polish and Russian experts have been preparing appropriate documents in Warsaw since 27 October. However, they have still not settled many issues in dispute.

This was Witold Laskowski reporting from Moscow for Wiadomosci.

Oil Spill Said 'Blown Up' by United States

MK0211090094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 2 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Yevgeniy Kuznetsov from Syktyvkar in the "Consequences" column: "The State Commission on the Usinsk Accident Sums Up Results. Komi President Believes That United States 'Is Seeking To Establish Tough Economic Control of Russian Territory'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 1 November the Komi government considered the results of work by the state federal and republic commissions following the accident on the oil pipeline in the area of Usinsk, and established the final size of the oil spill: 14,033 tonnes. These data are based on analysis of documents by both commissions and also the oil and gas administration Usinsktermneft, and the Russian-Canadian and Russian-U.S. joint ventures Komiarktikoil and Nobileil, which operate the oil pipeline.

From the overall quantity of the spill, approximately 2,000 tonnes got into the Kolva River after the dam on swamp oil collectors was ruptured as a result of a flood 28 September. All in all, 26.6 hectares were polluted. According to the commission, as of 31 October, 11,200 tonnes of oil were left to clean up in the oil collectors.

The spill is planned to be fully cleaned up before 1 April 1995. A suit worth 62 billion rubles has been filed against the Komineft group.

In an exclusive interview for *SEGODNYA*, Yuriy Spiridonov, head of the Komi Republic, said that "the local accident on the oil pipeline in Usinsk has been blown up by U.S. Government officials exclusively in the commercial interests of U.S. financial-industrial circles interested in participating in the development of the Timano-Pechorsk project, agreement on which was reached during President Boris Yeltsin's visit to the United States." Spiridonov stated that "through ecology, the Americans, in the spirit of Bill Clinton's latest doctrine about the United States' incontestable lead in the world, is trying to establish tough economic control of Russian territory."

Yuriy Spiridonov considers this factor central in the Usinsk case when, following a statement by U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy White, a common accident, unrecorded by any of the space satellites, 2.5 months later took on the character of a global ecological catastrophe. After the statement by the U.S. official about 2 million barrels of oil being spilled in Usinsk, the shares of the Komineft group fell from \$20.40 to \$10.10. They began to be actively bought up by large oil companies, including U.S. companies working in the neighboring Nenets National Okrug: Conoco, and Brown and Ruud, which would like to make use of the new oil pipeline just about to be put into operation by the Komineft group, giving these companies access to the center of Russia.

The Komi leadership is particularly concerned by the spread of false information about oil getting into the Pechora River and the Barents Sea. They consider this impossible, because the Usinsk oil got into the Kolva river, and as early as 4 October exhaustive measures were taken to localize the source of pollution. The Kolva falls into the Usa, while the Usa flows into the Pechora, where no oil spots have been found. Meanwhile, the Komi government is in possession of a number of confidential data indicating that in the period from 21 through 24 October three foreign tankers, which ran into a heavy storm in the Barents Sea, had to dump oil in order not to capsize. The aggregate dumping volume is estimated at 25,000 tonnes.

The session pointed out that the Komi government will not object to foreign assistance in cleaning up the spill in Usinsk provided these proposals are mutually beneficial. So far only the proposal by the state of Alaska, whose governor is flying to Komi on the evening of 1 November, has been chosen.

Komi Blames U.S. Interests

LD0111194594 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Ye. Kuznetsov] On 1 November the Komi government analyzed the official documents from the federation and republican government commissions and also documents on the financial and production activity of the Komineft (Komi oil) group in connection with the accident on the main oil pipeline in the area of Usinsk which took place on 12 August.

The facts in this case are: Exactly 14,033 tonnes of spilled oil; 26.6 hectares of polluted territory; and 62 billion rubles ecological fine imposed on the Komineft group. All the rest is supplied by the commercial interests of American financial and industrial circles and very big politics connected with the American doctrine, renewed by Bill Clinton, of the unconditional primacy of the United States throughout the world.

This conclusion was reached by the Komi top leadership, which simply invites the public to consider the following facts and to compare them. The fuss about the local accident in Usinsk—which was not registered by a single spy satellite—was raised urgently by U.S. Deputy Energy Secretary William White two and half months after the accident and two weeks after the accident at the pipeline in Texas where, according to data from the Russian side, a pipe 1 meter in diameter—which is one a half times bigger than the Usinsk—spilled up to 65,000 tonnes of oil. Three workers were killed in the incident.

The shares of the Komineft group after 25 October, that is after the statement by the American official, fell from 29.4 to 10.1 dollars each. On 26 October foreign, including American, companies began actively to buy them up.

Moscow To 'Insist' on Oil Transportation Via Novorossiysk

LD0111175294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1611 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Ivantsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—"Russia will insist on the almost-approved variant of oil transportation via the port of Novorossiysk, Bulgaria and Greece to the Greek port of Alexandroupolis," Russian Minister of Fuel and Energy Yuriy Shafraanik told a Turkish delegation on Monday night. The delegation is headed by Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Veysel Atasoy.

The negotiations focused on possible routes of oil and gas pipelines. The Turkish side wants Russian and Kazakh oil to be transported to the Mediterranean area via Turkey, but Shafraanik stressed Russia insists on the use of Novorossiysk. In his words, this route will be most efficient, and Russia will participate in construction of only efficient pipelines that go via Russian territory.

Shafraanik stressed that disputes over the pipeline routes in the Caspian Sea area should not affect relations

between Russia, Turkey and the Commonwealth states. He urged more active Turkish participation in projects suggested by Russia.

The minister stressed the Russian interest in joint projects that would enable participation of Russian companies in sales of gas and oil products in Turkey.

Rights Official Criticizes U.S. Visa Service

MM0111160994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1
 Nov 94 p 7

[Open letter from Sergey Kovalev [commissioner for human rights] to U.S. Ambassador Pickering: "Editorial Mailbag: U.S. Consular Service Continuing CPSU's Work"]

[FBIS Translated Text] To Mr. Pickering, U.S. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Russian Federation,

Your Excellency!

I have twice had dealings with the U.S. Embassy on matters of visa policy. I am now appealing to you in connection with a recent incident that befell Professor G.P. Grigorenko when his entry documents to the United States were being processed. But I would like to stipulate in advance that this is not about the specific case cited below. This by no means isolated episode entitles me, I believe, to talk about a definite trend.

Georgiy Grigorenko is the son of the well-known human-rights campaigner General Grigorenko, who had previously been stripped of his Soviet citizenship and cordially welcomed along with his family to the United States. On 14 October Georgiy Grigorenko was urgently summoned to the United States by his brother to bid farewell to his dying mother—or, rather, his stepmother, Gen. Grigorenko's widow. But he was refused a visitor's visa [gostevaya visa]. A consular official could find no "adequate grounds" for the trip and, moreover, suspected (entirely without grounds, I would note) that G. Grigorenko would not want to return home—he had never been abroad before, earns very little, and has too many relatives in the United States. Seven years ago the communist authorities did not allow Georgiy Grigorenko to attend his father's funeral in the United States. Now similar action is being taken by the U.S. consular service.

G. Grigorenko, discouraged by this turn of events, turned to me for help. Believing the incident to be a normal mix-up, I spent two days trying to contact Mrs. Nancy Sambayev, U.S. consul general in Moscow. The consul could not find the time to speak to me. Her two colleagues were more condescending. Particularly instructive was the second conversation (of 20 October 1994) with a gentleman who was introduced to me as a consul. It was spelled out to me that, first, the turning down of Grigorenko was entirely justified; that, second, the consulate issues visas to whoever it wants and refuses

visas to whoever it wants, even the Russian president; that, third, neither the U.S. Consulate nor the United States itself consider themselves bound by any international agreements in the sphere of human rights; and, finally, that the consul considered the conversation with me to be idle talk and a sheer waste of time.

I will make no secret of the fact that I was startled by this conversation, by the discourteous, if not rude, tone, and by some of the things I was being told (I admit that I may have reacted rather heatedly to what the consul said). Nonetheless, if I were a civil servant representing a great country I would fight shy of de facto disavowing agreements that my country had concluded in the humanitarian sphere and would not insult a relatively important official from the host country. In fact, I would not insult anyone—after all, is not a consular service the face a country presents to the world, should not its officials should be models of correctness, understanding, competence, and respect for their clients? Nowhere more than in consular services should the concept of human rights and human dignity be sacred and interference in people's private lives impermissible.

This private matter fortunately turned out well for the applicant. Georgiy Grigorenko was finally issued with a visa. Admittedly, insofar as I am aware, it was not at the consulate's initiative that the decision was reviewed. But this case reveals, in my view, general problems in the existing practice of giving Russian citizens nonimmigrant status to the United States.

Numerous examples show that, irrespective of any specific grounds for refusing Russian citizens a visitor's or other temporary visa (and, according to my figures, no fewer than 50 percent of applicants traveling on private invitations are turned down), there is in the consular service a clear presumption of bad faith on the part of Russians applying to the service wishing to visit the United States.

Yes, some of those who go to visit America are indeed in no hurry to return. Admittedly, such people represent not 40 percent, as the consul assured me, but 15-20 percent (at any rate, I was given this figure by another consular official). But even that is a lot. And I can perfectly well understand that a consul's duty is primarily to protect the interests of his country and its citizens. I understand that there is a difficult problem regarding how to protect the country from illegal immigration and dishonest visitors. But the system of guarantees should be based on the spirit and letter of international agreements in the humanitarian sphere, on intelligible instructions, and on the competence and humanity of the staff, rather than on rudeness, arrogant complacency, and an emasculated bureaucratic formality of the worst Soviet kind.

A diplomat's lack of respect and trust for the citizens of the country where he has to work is the worst way to build the equal partnership of goodwill that has been proclaimed at the highest level.

We dissidents once saw the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Helsinki Accord as a touchstone, and we regarded the United States and the European Community as the guarantors of human rights in the world. I am still grateful to America and to U.S. Embassy staff for supporting our struggle for individual freedom. Back then we thought that this support was dictated not only and not so much by political calculation as by sincere human conviction. But maybe we were too naive, maybe the U.S. defense of the ideals of human rights—in particular, the right to freedom of movement (we remember the Jackson-Vanik amendment)—was motivated by the interests of political maneuvering? And, therefore, maybe the retreat from those ideals now is politically motivated too? I can assure you that this is a shortsighted ploy. There are plenty of political forces in Russia which are hostile toward Western democracy. So is it really sensible to engage in actions which will make democratically minded sections of Russian society and, ultimately, all Russians look on the United States with distrust and skepticism? I am sure that you grasp the dangers of going down that road. I am sure that this is not what U.S. policy wants.

I cannot remain complacent when my fellow citizens are being subjected to humiliation and groundless suspicion. Regrettably, this letter is my only means to publicly voice my protest. This is why I am reserving the right to publish it.

Respectfully,
Sergey Kovalev

Yeltsin, Ukraine's Kuchma Speak Via Telephone

LD0111162894 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1548 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 1 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—A telephone conversation between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma took place this evening on the Ukrainian president's initiative. As ITAR-TASS was informed at the RF president's press-service, questions of bilateral relations, as well as cooperation between Russia and Ukraine in the international arena, were discussed during the conversation.

Yeltsin To Cancel Kiev Visit

MK0211084094 Moscow *NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian* 2 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Vitaliy Portnikov under the "Ukraine" rubric with general heading: "Boris Yeltsin's Kiev Visit Will Evidently Not Take Place"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to reports from confidential sources, President Boris Yeltsin's Kiev visit scheduled for the second half of November to all appearances will not take place. The Russian side is inclined to deem the summit inadvisable given a nearly complete lack of progress in bilateral talks. President Leonid

Kuchma has thus obtained a perfect opportunity to discuss Russian-Ukrainian relations with Bill Clinton: Initially it was planned that Yeltsin would arrive in Kiev before Kuchma's U.S. trip (the Ukrainian president is due to visit America 22-24 November).

Russia Fears Muslims Want Military Solution in Bosnia

LD0111153594 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1358 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Valeriy Sevryukov and Vladimir Suprun]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 1 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—"Moscow seriously fears that the intention of the Muslim side to favor a military solution to the conflict may be behind the latest events in Bosnia," said Grigoriy Karasin, director of the department of information and the press at the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs, speaking at a briefing here today. If this dangerous trend is not stopped in the most decisive manner, the fate of Bosnia-Herzegovina is fraught with catastrophe, he stressed.

The military formations of the Sarajevo government, in failing to observe the decisions of the UN Security Council which demand "a end to any kind of provocative activity, irrespective of who perpetrates it, inside and around the safety zones in Bosnia-Herzegovina", have taken advantage of the status of the Bihac safety zone to build up their forces, to fire on Serbian positions, and to carry out a broad offensive.

The actions of the government troops against Serb positions taken from the Bihac zone are a blatant challenge to the UN Security Council, G. Karasin said. We think that in this situation there are weighty grounds for using all the arsenal of means available against the attacking side in order to put a stop to the actions which are not compatible with the status of the safety zones. He explained that these measures should primarily envision political and diplomatic influence being brought to bear to normalize the situation.

At this time, the diplomat noted, all sides are taking part in artificially whipping up emotions. Therefore we want the UN Security Council to make its view on this unambiguously clear and to take immediate measures. "The main thing at this time is not to give any of the confronting sides any reason to feel itself to be in a privileged position."

The official spokesman of the Russian Federation Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that the entire complex of problems relating to a Yugoslav settlement in light of the latest events in Bosnia is being discussed during the trip, which started yesterday, around the republics of the former Yugoslavia by Aleksandr Zotov, the new Russian special representative dealing with the Yugoslav crisis. His visit will last until 7 November, during which time he is to visit Belgrade, Zagreb, and Sarajevo. A. Zotov

will hold talks with representatives of the leadership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Serbian Krajina, as well as with Yasushi Akashi, the UN secretary general's representative in Yugoslavia, and with the commanders of the UN peace-keeping forces in Bosnia.

UN Envoy on Proposal To Lift Some FRY Sanctions

LD0111233594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2226 GMT 1 Nov 94

[ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, 1 Nov—On 1 November, Russia's representative in the UN Security Council's Yugoslav sanctions committee tabled an official proposal that the committee's agenda should include a package of issues relating to humanitarian supplies to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [FRY] that the Russian Federation had already raised in the committee on more than one occasion. This was stated in a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent by Sergey Lavrov, Russia's permanent representative at the United Nations.

Russia proceeds firmly from the view that, with due regard for Belgrade's constructive policy in the search for a political settlement to the Yugoslav crisis, and in view of the coming into force of Resolution 943 on a partial suspension of sanctions, the committee must, with the utmost benevolence, study the question of deliveries to Yugoslavia of fuel for humanitarian purposes, and of raw materials for the production of medicines, fertilizers, water purification equipment and other goods, the Russian envoy said.

Imports of such goods would alleviate the acuteness of the humanitarian situation in the FRY. The urgent need for a decision on these matters stems from the onset of

winter. Russia expects all these questions to be substantively and positively examined at a sitting of the sanctions committee to be held soon, S. Lavrov emphasized.

Radar Station To Be Discussed During Cuba Visit

LD0111184194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The main purpose of the working visit of Chief of the Russian Armed Forces General Headquarters, General Mikhail Kolesnikov, to Havana is to discuss with the Cuban leaders the issue of preserving the Russian radio radar station for warning about a missile attack on Cuban territory, a well-informed source in the Russian Defense Ministry told Interfax.

The same source said that at the present moment Russia had only one radio radar station in this part of the world—in Cuba.

The issue of preserving the radio radar station was discussed during the visit of high-ranking Cuban military officials to Moscow last year. However, the issue was not definitely resolved at that time.

Russian military experts said Havana demanded too large a payment for leasing the radio radar station. According to different evaluations, Cuba wanted to receive from Russia leasing the radio radar station up to \$1 billion.

During his visit to Havana Kolesnikov will hold talks with the command of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces. Sources in the government said that Russia had recently practically stopped to deliver military equipment, armaments and spare parts to Cuba.

The Information Department of the Russian Defense Ministry told Interfax that the visit of Kolesnikov to Cuba would last till November 2.

Political Issues

Yeltsin Cuts Presidential Administration By One-Third

LD0111152394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1352 GMT 1 Nov 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Today Boris Yeltsin signed an instruction to reduce by one third the size of the presidential administration. The step was taken in view of the need to eliminate duplication of functions with other power structures.

Staff Cuts To Reduce Duplication of Duties

LD0111190194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin has signed a directive to cut his staff by one-third, informed sources said.

The directive says the reduction is needed to rule out the situation where different authorities are vested with the same duties, the source told Interfax. He said the president also ordered drawing up proposals to improve his staff's performance.

Yeltsin's chief of staff, Sergey Filatov, in an interview with Interfax, confirmed the existence of such a directive, but denied recent rumors that the presidential staff's authority will be extended by handing over to it some of the powers of other bodies, including the government's office.

Filatov said the opposite was true, the government's office having taken over part of the presidential staff's authority, including personnel and legal matters.

Rumor Mill Says Kozyrev, Grachev in Jeopardy

MK0211083094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Nov 94 p 1

[T.T. report under the "In Brief" rubric: "Moscow Rumors"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Different versions of changes in the cabinet continue to be mulled in Moscow's corridors of power.

The most unexpected of all will be the name of a new finance minister, although the entire political beau monde of the capital know this man by sight and by name.

Signs are that Andrey Kozyrev's ministerial career is coming to an end. Although our president is still morally unprepared for this decision, all signs of an impending resignation are in evidence.

Less clear is the question of Pavel Grachev. Boris Yeltsin's intention to fire Grachev was ripe as early as in

the summer, and in this connection, observers believe, the Defense Ministry has stopped encroachments on the property of the CIS Joint Armed Forces headquarters on Leningradskiy Prospekt (an "emergency landing strip" for Pavel Grachev). But the radicals' sharp attacks on Grachev have rather slowed down than sped up this process.

A rumor has been launched about Mikhail Poltoranin returning to the position of vice premier in charge of the mass media. But, most probably, the initiator of this rumor is Mr. Poltoranin himself.

Gryzunov Appointed Chairman of Press Committee

LD0111182394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1802 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Ivanova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin has appointed Sergey Gryzunov chairman of the Russian State Committee for the Press.

Gryzunov was associate chairman of the committee since April 1994 and was in charge of the commission for allocating governmental grants to the mass media.

Chernomyrdin had a one-hour meeting with Gryzunov on Tuesday. They discussed measures aimed at privatizing the mass media and reinforcing their economic independence.

Gryzunov was born in 1949 in Samara, later on his family moved to Moscow. He finished studying at secondary school in 1966, and graduated from the Moscow State University (journalism faculty) in 1971 and set about working as a junior editor with the then "Novosti" news agency (APN, now - the Russian Information Agency "Novosti"). He finished working for the agency when he was its deputy chief editor.

Gryzunov is a candidate of sciences (history) specializing in the history of the Balkan peninsula.

He worked as an APN correspondent in Yugoslavia for a total of 12 years. When he returned from his last business trip to the country in April 1994, he was appointed associate chairman of the Russian State Committee for the Press.

Gryzunov is married and has a son. His hobbies include soccer, fishing and submarine hunting.

Yeltsin, Chernomyrdin Discuss Duma Debate

LD0111141494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1335 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 1 Nov—The outcome of the recent debate in the State Duma of the report from

the chairman of the Russian government was one of the main topics discussed at a meeting in the Kremlin today between President Boris Yeltsin of Russia and Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin.

The press service of the Russian Federation president said that particular attention was paid at the meeting to financial issues, specifically the problem of the budget deficit and clearing salary arrears. The report from the press service also says that Boris Yeltsin drew the government chairman's attention to the need for fundamental measures to be taken to implement the house-building program for military servicemen.

According to the president's press service, the talks also touched on cooperation between the government and the body of deputies. Certain personnel matters were discussed.

Yeltsin Meets Chernomyrdin, Lobov, Filatov

LD0111171494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1440 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin held planned meetings with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Secretary of the Security Council Oleg Lobov and Chief of the president's Staff Sergey Filatov on November 1, informed sources told Interfax.

The president and the prime minister discussed, among other things, the results of the discussion of the government report in the State Duma, measures to promote the economic reform and personnel-related questions.

Among the issues which Yeltsin discussed with Filatov were ways of enhancing the efficiency of the work of the president's staff.

Yeltsin Sets New Rules for Acquiring Citizenship

LD0111213094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2054 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Liliya Kuznetsova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—Yeltsin's decree "on citizenship" has become new, decisive step in solving the problem of granting Russian citizenship to our fellow countrymen, who found themselves abroad, Abdulakh Mikitayev, head of the Department for Citizenship under the Presidential Administration, told a news conference on Tuesday.

The new decree helps to facilitate the process of acquiring the citizenship of the Russian Federation for citizens of R.S.F.S.R. (the former Soviet republic), who lost it involuntarily, Mikitayev said.

Under the decree, all people who lived in Russia's territory, but did not have permanent residence permit and, therefore, failed to get the status of citizens of the Russian Federation after the law "on citizenship of the

Russian Federation" came into force, - will now be recognized as Russian citizens, if they live here on a lawful basis.

Our fellow countrymen, who were born and lived in R.S.F.S.R., but then found themselves in the territories of newly formed independent states, and who want to return to Russia, - will also be recognized as its citizens, for they lost the citizenship on the strength of new circumstances, he added.

Under the decree, Russians may return to their homeland at any time, whenever they want, Mikitayev said.

Moreover, a new presidential decree is in preparation which will prolong the deadline set for applying for legalizing one's Russian citizenship by a previously adopted law (February 6, 1995) by two more years, he added.

After this new presidential decree is issued, the creation of a legal basis for interaction with our fellow countrymen who live abroad will be virtually completed, Mikitayev said.

Commission Says Komi Oil Spill Not Disaster

LD0111132094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1223 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Usinsk November 1 TASS—The recent accident at the Usinsk oil pipeline in Komi was not an environmental disaster, was the conclusion of a governmental commission of experts from ministries and departments of Russia and its Republic of Komi and the Nenets autonomous area.

The commission's report was finished today, saying: "It was concluded from visual examination of the terrain invaded by oil-containing fluid from the site of the oil pipeline accident that the leak caused no global environmental pollution, and is not definable as an environmental accident."

As it had been reported earlier, scores of leaks had occurred in August and September this year at the pipeline's dysfunctional segment. Different estimates put volumes of oil leaks at 14,000 to 60,000 tonnes.

According to the commission, "the Pechora water basin is objectively prone to pollution by oil-containing fluid during spring floods." Therefore, consequences of the accident must be abolished before April 1, 1994, the commission said.

Gorbachev Backs New Social Democratic Union

MM0211110594 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Natalya Kuzina: "Mikhail Gorbachev Supports Social Democrats, But Declines to Join"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Radical supporters of the market know how to unite. Which they have proved on numerous occasions. They can completely fall out with each other. But before each and every lap of reform, they form a solid block once again.

The numerous organizations of communists have not assimilated the science of consolidation. The patriots have also recently left them, having won the debate about who is more patriotic. That is why, despite conjectures, there is not even a hint of the emergence of a communist-patriotic bloc.

Now the social democrats have tried to unite at the congress of the Russian Social Democratic Union [RSDU], which was held a few days ago. "This is a colossally important moment in Russia's political history," M.S. Gorbachev, who was present there, said.

The Russian Social Democratic People's Party, the "Unified Social Democrats" faction of the Social Democratic Party of Russia, the Russian Green Party, the Russian Social Democratic Center, and the "Young Social Democrats of Russia" movement have become members of the new union. Sympathizers include the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia and the Party of Labor.

The aims of the RSDU were formulated in V. Lipitskiy's policy speech. They are a socially oriented economy and a social state. Long-term plans include the formation of a center-left coalition and early elections of federal and local authorities. The program put forward by S. Glazyev, which the social democrats are hoping to promote in every possible way, is suitable for providing the most successful organizational arrangement for the fatherland. The union links the social base with hired workers and the intelligentsia. Its attitude toward the authorities is, of course, one of opposition. But as Lipitskiy put it, "We will always be a step behind the radicals. Our main trump card is constructiveness and creativity."

The future of the Social Democratic Union will in many respects depend on the same considerations as that of all the opposition forces: being able to agree among each other and suppress their own ambitions. Here the social democrats will have to do a great deal of work. In any case, it was not concealed at the congress that the very fact of its being held had met with great difficulties for these very reasons. Evidently, subsequent discussions will evolve on the following questions: Whom should we associate with, and how to speak to the people?

The last task is not an easy one either, since no one knows exactly what social democracy is. Its rapid spread is causing even more confusion. And when A. Yakovlev and G. Popov declare themselves to be social democrats, it is very difficult for inexperienced people to tell whom this trend supports.

Incidentally, Gorbachev was impartial in his assessment of the association of aforementioned people, calling it a

"modern-day version of gaponovshchina" [reference to Father Gapon, priest who headed police-sponsored and -monitored workers association in St. Petersburg around the time of the 1905 social unrest in Russia; he led the march to the Winter Palace in January 1905 which was fired on by troops guarding the palace, a crucial event—subsequently designated Bloody Sunday—in the evolution of the revolutionary situation in the country]. Here, in his opinion, "An attempt is being made to create a paid social democracy to restrain the existing course." We must assume that that is precisely why Gorbachev has made expansive overtures to the RSDU as a political force capable of expressing the interests of the majority of the people. "Half the people did not turn out to vote. They are waiting for you. The others voted against the authorities. They are also waiting for you."

However, to all appearances, Mikhail Gorbachev himself, whose speech at the congress was greeted with ovations, does not intend to unite with anyone for the time being.

Economic Issues

Security Council Discusses Ruble Crash

LD0211090294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0843 GMT 2 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 2 TASS—Conclusions made by the state commission for investigating causes of the sharp financial market destabilization due to the roller-coaster ride of the rouble on October 11, 1994 are currently under discussion at the Russian Security Council session that opened in the Kremlin on Wednesday.

Text of Commission's Ruble Crash Probe To Be Publicized

LD0211105294 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0952 GMT 2 Nov 94

[From the Novosti newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] At the present time a session of the Security Council is taking place in the Kremlin. The results of the work of the state commission for investigating the reasons for the destabilization of the country's finance market and the drastic fall in the ruble rate are being discussed. The session is being held behind closed doors. Oleg Lobov, the secretary of the Security Council, is making a report.

Before the session started Boris Yeltsin reported to journalists that the full text of the commission's conclusions will be distributed among the press when the session has ended.

Yeltsin Edict Sets Deadline on Regulating Audit Work*MM011, 150394 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 First Edition p 4*

[Edict No. 2004 of the Russian Federation president "On Specifying Deadlines for Carrying Out Measures To Regulate Audit Work in the Russian Federation," signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin and dated 24 October 1994]

[FBIS Translated Text] With a view to studying more thoroughly questions of regulating audit work in the Russian Federation I decree that:

1. The Government of the Russian Federation shall be given the right to specify, on the submission of the Commission for Audit Work under the President of the Russian Federation, the deadlines for implementing measures to regulate audit work in the Russian Federation envisaged by Points 3, 5, and 6 of Russian Federation Presidential Edict No. 2263 of 22 December 1993 "On Audit Work in the Russian Federation" (SOBRANIYE AKTOV PREZIDENTA I PRAVITELSTVA ROSSIYSKOY FEDERATSII, 1993, No. 52, p 5069).

2. This Edict comes into force from the moment it is signed.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin

[Dated] The Kremlin, Moscow, 24 October 1994

Provisions of Vavilov Budget Outlined*MM0111152794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 First Edition p 1*

[Article by Vladimir Kucherenko: "A Budget With No Illusions. That Is the View of Finance Ministry Leaders Concerned at the Fate of the National Currency"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Acting Finance Minister Andrey Vavilov is forecasting an inflation rate of 1-2 percent a month in the new year. It is planned that the deficit will be cut to 72 trillion rubles [R] thanks to the fact that A. Chubays, head of the State Committee for the Management of State Property, has "promised to increase" privatization revenues. But how will the remaining gap be plugged?

First of all Vavilov does not intend covering the deficit by means of Central Bank credits any more but has found another source—the sale of state stocks to creditor banks. And to attract the population's funds into the banks the government has abandoned taxes on bank accounts and the corresponding interest payments. Consequently foreign credits will be needed to plug the budget: 7 billion in financial credits and 6 billion in standby credits from the IMF, 1.5 billion from the World Bank, another 3 billion in the form of "tied loans," and so forth.

Schemes are also being devised for the sale in the foreign market of state stocks, convertible securities, and privatized enterprise shares left in state ownership. In all, this will raise \$2 billion.

The next area where spending is to be reduced is subsidies: There is to be a complete withdrawal of subsidies to agriculture, coal mining, and transport. This will mean closing down loss-making mines (which will be extremely expensive in itself), ignoring the farmers' "tractor" demonstrations, and refusing to compensate the regions beyond the Urals for the rising cost of transport, with the result that those territories will really be cut off from the rest of the country.

The policy of absorbing extrabudgetary funds should be quite productive. According to Deputy Finance Minister S. Aleksashenko, the state forms of extrabudgetary funds are to be preserved: the pension fund, the medical and social insurance fund, and the employment fund even though they duplicate budget spending. However, such funds as the road fund, the ecological fund, and the customs service development fund are being consolidated in the budget, they will continue to be protected, and their targeted use will be maintained. Sectoral investment funds are to be abolished, which is a cause of special irritation to ministries. They do not believe that private investors will finance the rail, pipeline, or other infrastructure networks, which have become significantly run down during the years of transformations. But Vavilov is promising 15.9 trillion for centralized investments in 1995—because only around 9 trillion of the 18 trillion promised this year have actually been ensured.

The regions' dream of holding on to as large a share of their taxes as possible has not been realized. Vavilov is promising the old principle of differentiated help to the territories and budget transfers (when money collected from the regions is returned to them via the financial support fund). The Finance Ministry intends to increase the standard contribution to it from 22 percent to 27 percent.

But as recently as 25 October governors from the Federation Council attacked Vice Premier O. Soskovets and demanded money under the transfer system. They said that the figures vary between 5 and 30 percent of the amount promised. In Moscow, admittedly, there is an opinion that the regions themselves could make more active use of internal reserves and reduce their own losses. For example, by refunding money for exported commodities.

Despite this belt-tightening exercise, however, A. Vavilov is promising to clear the treasury's wage debt and not cut the social program. He believes that the State Duma will cooperate with the government in the adoption of this budget on the grounds that it is the most realistic one possible. Whereas just 60 percent of the 1994 budget has been implemented, in 1995 the plan is to achieve 95 percent.

The question of the redemption of debts by the government was also raised. Vavilov stated that the debt created by ex-finance minister Fedorov has already been cleared and state securities are already being issued against "debt-94" and can be used in settlements. By the end of the year R5 trillion will have been issued this way.

Deputy Finance Minister S. Aleksashenko tried to lift the veil of secrecy surrounding the so-called government authorized banks. They have been in existence for three years now although the list of them has not yet been published and their selection criteria were not elaborated until April. There are persistent rumors around that these banks are "stashing away" the budget trillions and making vast amounts in interest. There have been repeated complaints from governors and sectoral leaders that some well-known banks hold back billions of rubles for months (sometimes they even "lose" them), thus bringing production to a halt, inciting strikes, and disrupting shipments to the north and preparations for the winter. Similar complaints were voiced in the Economy Ministry's report on fuel purchases for the new heating season.

Aleksashenko says that the Russian Government, unlike its Moscow counterpart, keeps treasury funds only in Central Bank of Russia accounts. There is a group of banks through which conversion and investment credits are moved and that list will be published soon. They were chosen by the government's credit commission. In Vavilov's words, not all the banks of this kind are working in accordance with the established standards and there are complaints against many of them. However, this problem should not be exaggerated: What is needed is a specific investigation.

Military & Space Issues

Yeltsin Dismisses Deputy Defense Minister

LD0111164194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1630 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—A decree of Russian President Boris Yeltsin removed Colonel-General Matvey Burlakov from the post of deputy Russian defence minister today "in order to protect the honor of the Russian Armed Forces, their supreme command and the authority of Russian state power in connection with the current inspections".

The general, 59, was appointed deputy Russian defence minister in August 1994. Before the appointment he had headed the group of Russian troops stationed in east Germany for almost four years.

The Russian press has carried a large number of reports claiming large-scale corruption and abuse of office in the western group of forces. Some accusations concerned personally Burlakov.

'Text' of Dismissal Edict

LD0111175394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 1 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has signed an edict on Matvey Burlakov. Here follows the text of the edict handed over to ITAR-TASS by the press service of the president of the Russian Federation:

With a view to defending the honor of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and their supreme command, the prestige of the state authorities of the Russian Federation, and in connection with the inspections currently in progress, in accordance with Paragraph "L" of Article 83 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, I resolve that:

1. Colonel General Burlakov Matvey Prokopyevich is to be removed from the post of deputy defense minister of the Russian Federation, and that he is to be placed at the disposal of the defense minister of the Russian Federation.

2. This edict come into effect from the moment it is signed.

Burlakov Starts Camp Tour 1 Nov

MM0211100394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Nov 94 p 1

[Report by Oleg Vladykin from the Russian Federation Defense Ministry: "Deputy Minister Inspecting Northern Garrisons"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Colonel General Matvey Burlakov, deputy defense minister, and a group of officers from the General Staff left for an inspection tour of the northern garrisons of the Leningrad Military District, the Northern Fleet, and the Air Defense Forces yesterday.

The aim of the tour was to check the preparation of military units and military camps for the approaching winter and to ascertain their need for central assistance.

Aide Says Burlakov Relieved of Duties

LD0211121294 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday the president relieved Matvey Burlakov as deputy defense minister. We got in touch by telephone with Yelena Agapova, the defence minister's aide.

[Begin Agapova recording] The Russian president's edict dismissing Colonel-General Matvey Burlakov and putting him at the disposal of the defense minister was not unexpected for Pavel Grachev. The thing is, that when the media launched a campaign of accusations in connection with alleged corruption in the Western Group of Forces, Col-Gen Matvey Burlakov asked the defense

minister to allow him to resign temporarily, for the period of the investigation. The current interpretation of the edict, that Burlakov was removed from his post, is not quite correct. I am telling you that to relieve somebody of duties and to put the person at the disposal of the defense minister means to release him from his post until inspection is completed. [end recording]

Military Organizations Urge Yeltsin To Sack Grachev

LD0111143894 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1300 GMT 1 Nov 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] Despite yesterday's directive by Viktor Chernomyrdin that no effort should be spared to stop the wild outburst of anti-army campaign in the media, the criticism of the armed forces is continuing. The wicked media men have now been joined by reservists.

[Begin recording] [V. Dudnik, chairman of the public council "Army and society"] General Pavel Grachev is just as vulnerable and mortal as our own president. That is one thing. Second, the president has sufficient grounds to immediately remove Pavel Grachev who has incidentally done him enough damage. Therefore as soon as the president understands that he does not need this general in the way any longer, General Grachev will be immediately sacked from the army.

[Correspondent S. Sokolova] According to public military organizations such as "Shchit," "Army for Democracy," the association "Servicemen for their Civil Rights" and many others, we have not yet got a fully-fledged Russian army.

[V. Dudnik] What we have are the remnants of the Soviet army with all the vices that were inherent in it in the past and with the new ones acquired in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union. That is in addition to poor management of the army.

[Sokolova] As stated at a news conference, a split is developing in the army. The intellectual potential of the armed forces is being destroyed at an astonishing rate. Despite official statements the army is being armed with hopeless weapons, hardware and ammunition. Instead of cutting generals' posts, military bureaucracy and unnecessary structures, there is a reshuffle of military and administrative structures, their nature remaining unchanged. According to a public military organization, there is a way out.

[V. Dudnik] Only a civilian defense ministry combined with effective civilian control, and a justice department independent of the military department will be able to improve the situation in the armed forces and to carry out a healthy military reform. [end recording]

[Announcer] Before arriving in Moscow from the trip to the Far East, Defense Minister Grachev told journalists that he does not find it an enjoyable prospect to go back to the capital. According to the SEGODNYA newspaper, he added that if the State Duma demands another report from him, he will go away again to seek support among the troops in the wilderness of the Arctic and Novaya Zemlya.

Anti-Grachev Generals Criticize Kokoshin

MK0211104094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 2 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Gleb Cherkasov under the "Opposition" rubric: "Nonconformist Generals Think Situation in the Army Depressing. Military Leadership Unable To Carry Out Military Reform in Democratic Society's Interests"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladimir Dudnik, Anatoliy Kravtsov, and Vitaliy Kovalevskiy, who head organizations that bring together former and current servicemen who support army reform, held a press conference yesterday devoted to the present state of affairs in the Russian Armed Forces. A statement that was circulated points out that "virtually all measures in the defense sphere are not being carried out in the interests of the state's defense capability and of the major part of servicemen." The speakers voiced anxiety in connection with the fact that the situation inside the army is increasingly resembling the situation in the country in the worst years of its history. They had to state that their organizations have not succeeded in protecting a single serviceman expelled from the armed forces.

The military nonconformists think "the inability of today's military leadership to carry out military reform in the interests of a democratic state" is quite obvious. Having expressed regret in connection with the fact that First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin, for a number of objective and subjective reasons, has failed to justify the hopes pinned on him, and has made no real impact on the process of reforming the army, the military reformers deemed it necessary to underline that it is the "corrupt and reactionary part of the generals around the defense minister" who make all the difference in the army. Vladimir Dudnik, chairman of the public committee of the "Army and Society" roundtable, presumed that Pavel Grachev is "durable and unsinkable" to the same extent as is Boris Yeltsin, noting, however, that according to information he has, the Russian Federation president already would not mind replacing the defense minister.

Grachev on Far East Tour, Return to Moscow

MK0111113094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 2

[Report by Yuriy Golotyuk under the "General" rubric: "Russian Provinces Treat Pavel Grachev Well. Return to Moscow 'Unpleasant' for Him"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted] It is well known that the State Duma planned to hear the defense minister's report on the morale of the Armed Forces entrusted to him. Mr. Grachev responded to this with impressive exercises at the Anastasyevka training ground near Khabarovsk. Ending his visit to Ulan-Ude, the minister said that "the troops of the Far Eastern region are combat ready and have a robust morale." The defense ministry chief explained to your SEGODNYA correspondent: "When everybody starts saying that the defense minister is not a respected man, you can't help but have doubts. I go to the troops, to the periphery—everybody is backing me. So if someone in Moscow inquires as to how well the troops treat me, I will tell them—go to the Far East. Of course, it is difficult to be a defense minister who has to cut the army down from 3 million to 1.5 million. All the more so when this does not depend on me—I would have retained more, but I will have to sign orders on the pre-term discharge from the Armed Forces all the same, so there are bound to be dissatisfied people. But they support me nevertheless."

Yet the loyalty of the minister's subordinates can partially be attributed to purely material reasons as well: the debts for delayed pay and allowances, which made for a tense situation this year, were fully repaid last month. The minister also assured the servicemen that "although we stated in our military doctrine that Russia does not have a potential adversary, the Far Eastern region occupies a special place in the country's general system of national security." In Mr. Grachev's words, "various publications and rumors that have emerged recently to the effect that we allegedly plan to withdraw our troops from the Kurils and other ancient Russian territories do not square with reality."

Certain organizational changes will occur in the region's troops, though. In particular, the well-known 18th Machine Gun-Artillery Division deployed on the Kurils will be reorganized into a brigade, some military units of the Far Eastern Military District will be switched to military base status, and so forth. On the whole, however, the group of forces will not be weakened. This will be achieved first of all by supplying it with new, more sophisticated arms, including high-precision weapons. For instance, the minister promised to Pacific Fleet sailors that combat ships just off the blocks would join the Pacific Fleet by year's end. One month ago, after completing an extremely difficult trans-Arctic voyage, the Omsk, the top-of-the-line nuclear submarine cruiser carrying Granit cruise missiles with nuclear warheads, arrived in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy. Moreover, the region's civilian authorities also expressed their readiness to take part in the reequipment of Far Eastern Military District units. During a meeting with district commanders in Khabarovsk, Viktor Ishayev, chief of the kray administration, promised to appropriate \$100,000 to the military "to set up an automatic control and communications system."

Before flying back to Moscow, the minister complained to correspondents that for him it is "unpleasant to return

to Moscow. The real army is here, on Russia's outskirts. So if the State Duma once again has a desire to hear me, I will go to the troops—to the Arctic, to Novaya Zemlya, to out-of-the-way garrisons. For support." It is hard to say to what extent Mr. Grachev was joking or how serious he was. Maybe, he just had a feeling that back in Moscow he will be faced with the unpleasant results of the latest poll conducted by the Public Opinion Fund singling him out as the most unpopular member of the Chernomyrdin cabinet: 14 percent of those polled think he should resign.

Officials Discuss Disposal of Nuclear Submarines

LD0111184894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Senior officials of the Russian defense ministry have ended a meeting in Moscow by discussing how to dispose of written-off nuclear-powered submarines and related nuclear waste, the ministry's information and press department told Interfax.

First Deputy Commander of the Russian Navy Admiral Igor Kasatonov in a speech at the meeting said the issue was assuming a nationwide scope. He also spoke of the need to dispose of outdated nuclear-powered ships belonging to the transport ministry. The admiral said that separate ministries and departments would not be able to resolve the problem in the absence of an integrated system of disposal of spent nuclear fuel and liquified and solid nuclear waste.

Earlier, Chief Commander of the Russian Navy Feliks Gromov told Interfax that the defense ministry was planning to submit a new program of utilization of written-off nuclear-powered submarines to the government.

He said that if adopted, the new program will help reduce the cost of disposal and storage of nuclear sections of submarines. Gromov said the 17 percent of overall defense spending allocated for the purpose was not at all sufficient. That is why, he said, the ministry wants the figure to be increased.

The commander put the number of decommissioned nuclear-powered submarines at 121. Part of these have been disposed of but only nuclear fuel was unloaded from others. However, as many as 85 submarines taken off combat duty remain moored at their bases. Gromov said "we have to keep crews aboard to ensure nuclear safety and oversee they do not sink or catch fire."

The ministry officials also discussed draft military reform.

If implemented, the new reform will help strengthen law and order in the armed forces, reduce the number of offenses and provide greater legal safeguards and social security benefits to the servicemen, its authors say.

The meeting also involved presidential adviser for national security matters Yuri Baturin, Russian deputies and representatives of ministries and departments concerned.

Missile Troops Readiness Problems Discussed

MM0211091594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Nov 94 p 3

[Report by Aleksandr Dolinin under the rubric "Postscriptum: Events and Commentaries": "Maintaining the Strategic Missile Forces' Combat Readiness Is Not Costly. But There Is No Money Even for That. Almost Half the Missiles on Combat Duty Have Passed Their Warranted Operating Life"]

[FBIS Translated Text] How might the situation develop if even the Strategic Missile Forces are being maintained on starvation rations? To answer this question you only have to consider the conclusion cited at a recent session of the Strategic Missile Forces Military Council in which representatives of the Security Council, the Defense Ministry, and State Duma deputies took part. The conclusion was that the Missile Forces are now on the verge not just of losing the combat readiness of missile complexes but of also being unable to reliably ensure nuclear security. To be blunt, this is a rather surprising conclusion because we are accustomed to the fact that whatever the situation the strategic missile forces keep their standards "high."

Today Russia's Strategic Missile Forces grouping has around 1,000 launchers. The troops are equipped with several different types of ICBM. Some of them are deployed in silos. The RS-22s are in dual basing mode—in silos and on rail-mounted launchers. The RS-12Ms are in road-mobile complexes. But it must be borne in mind that missile complexes mean more than just launchers, they also mean command posts and vital backup systems....

But such is the situation today. The Strategic Missile Forces' spare parts, tools, and accessories kit are being used up and not replaced: There is nowhere to get them from. As a result, stocks of certain types of spares are sufficient for just a few months. And this is despite the fact that almost half the missiles on combat duty have passed their warranted operating lives! As for the command posts built 25-30 years ago, the indicator there is even worse.

The measures envisaged in the Strategic Missile Forces for extending the operational life of missile complexes this year have not been fully implemented. Why not? Because of the reduction of appropriations. For the same reason the program for the modernization of the troops' command posts and technical systems which have exceeded their operational life several times over is being delayed. Some units also have problems with combat control systems, communications systems, electricity supply, and protection.... In other words, they are having problems with everything connected not just with combat readiness but also, and I stress, with ensuring nuclear security.

Right now these systems are being maintained in a state of readiness for use by the strenuous efforts of personnel

and by using the last meager stocks of material resources. But that is the situation for today. Tomorrow no heroic efforts by the missile men will rescue the situation unless concrete measures elaborated at state level are implemented. Measures which can be implemented only with the help of government structures and the Defense Ministry.

In expressing their concern, missilemen are laboring under no illusions. They are perfectly well aware that no one is going to do the Strategic Missiles Forces' work for them. That is why they have done and will continue to do everything that they possibly can.

Cosmos-2293 Satellite Launched For Defense Ministry Use

1 D0211114694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1054 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 2 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—An artificial Earth satellite Cosmos-2293 was launched from the Baykonur cosmodrome by a Tsiklon-2 carrier rocket today. The satellite is to be used by the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense.

The satellite has been put in orbit with the following parameters: period of revolution - 92.7 minutes, apogee - 436 km and perigee - 412 km; orbit inclination - 65 degrees. The equipment on board the satellite is operating normally.

Federal Assembly

Chernomyrdin Answers Questions in Duma

MM0111120094 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Oct 94 p 2

["Extracts from transcript" of 27 October Russian State Duma session, incorporating deputies' question-and-answer session with Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin following his opening; also, a boxed section containing contributions by leaders of committees and factions, under the general heading "The Premier Made His Statement, the Duma Gave Its Verdict": "An Hour Under a Hail of Questions"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Chairman: Thank you, Viktor Stepanovich [Chernomyrdin]. Esteemed colleagues, are there any questions for the government chairman? Yes, there are. (Noise in the auditorium.)

Kiselev (LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction): Just this morning we received a fax. It contained the demands of miners at the "Sudzhenskaya" pit (SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA published them on 22 October 1994). First. The resignation of President Yeltsin and the entire Russian Federation Government and the dissolution of the upper chamber of the Federal Assembly, headed by Shumeyko. The powers of the central state authority in Russia to be vested in a coalition government, etc. These are the miners'

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demands. I would like to ask you, Viktor Stepanovich, what is your attitude to these demands?

Chernomyrdin: We have an agreement which we must fulfill toward the miners. I will do everything to fulfill it this year.

Dorovskikh (Balashovskiy Electoral District): In your speech just now you told us very nicely what achievements we have seen in the current year. But why did you not dwell on the shortcomings: the decline in production, unemployment, people going nine months without receiving their wages, the failure to ship food and fuel to the North.... Why do you not touch on these aspects, when Russia is losing a million human lives a year? In South Korea recently 17 people were killed, and the prime minister resigned. Why is it that, here, nobody resigns or takes responsibility for the crimes that are committed every day, every hour in our country?

Chernomyrdin: I was preparing to speak here in the Duma today, and for the first time I caught myself beginning my speech today with shortcomings. With the difficulties we face, the kinds of problems we have, what we have been unable to do, what we have not had time to do, and indeed sometimes have been unable to do. We must act, only we must act all together, in a single harness. Nobody is preventing me or has prevented me from doing anything. The only thing I am convinced of is that we must work, and that there is no other way. What happens in Korea or in other countries is not what concerns me at present, and I don't think we have time to worry about Korea today. We have plenty to do, we have work to do. That is what is envisaged in our next tasks, in our tasks for tomorrow. If we can stick it out or, so to speak, get a grip on ourselves, we can recover from this crisis.

Mikhaylov (98th Electoral District): In July, you and Oleg Nikolayevich Soskovets, giving the government's assessment of the situation in the economy at a government session and in parliamentary hearings respectively, stated that stabilization had set in. The question here is: What do you mean by the term "stabilization"? And a second question: Do you think the executive power structure is operating as a single whole? Why have the local heads of administrations become distanced from the management of the state sector of the economy? Chernomyrdin: First, how the government works. As a single whole, or not? Today one can speak of results that we do not find satisfactory. I cannot disagree with that. I cannot. But the fact that the government is working today, that the government is not being torn apart from within today, I can categorically assure you of that.... You especially.

Why do people always try to push me into some kind of quarrel myself? No, it's not going to happen. I simply don't understand this. I have been working as a leader for so many years, and it has never happened, and I don't think it ever will. That is the first point.

Second, about the heads of administrations. Well, I don't know what your job is. I can only say that no doubt there are some present here—let me see—some heads of administrations present here. Well, you either have to put yourself in the shoes, so to speak, of a head of administration. Or else you have to do the job, so to speak, and see, but to say today that they don't work.... No, they are bearing the main burden today. We have handed over and are handing over a lot to them today. And I am not afraid of that—on the contrary, we will continue to hand over many affairs to them. Because they can see things more clearly from where they are, on the spot. And today, to accuse anyone, or, even worse, everyone indiscriminately, I cannot do it, I have no right to. Because it is not so.

And as for questions of stabilization.... It is a philosophical question. Today, of course, we can talk about it. We have, indeed, talked about stabilization. We want stabilization. And today we already have the green shoots of stabilization. So why should we not talk about it today?... We must not only talk, we must act. And work to ensure that these shoots grow strong and proliferate, then we will have general success.

Mironov (CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] faction): Esteemed Chairman of the Russian Federation Government! The unprecedented increase in crime and its savagery have rocked the whole country, and all strata of Russian society are demanding resolute measures to combat crime. Neither the life, nor the health, nor the property of citizens is safe. Tell me, please, what measures have been taken specifically by the government to suppress organized crime? And is the increase in crime not the consequence of the political and economic course that is being pursued in the country? Of the reallocation of property, without precedent in the entire world, that is taking place in Russia? Thank you.

Chernomyrdin: First, the government makes provision for the financing of our law-enforcement organs. Even in these difficult times we are providing from the budget virtually everything necessary in order to fulfill the programs envisaged for the current year.

Second, about the cause. I don't suppose I can tell you anything new here. Of course that is bound to be the cause of what is happening in our country today. And today, as we carry out these transformations in the country, it is no use thinking that it could all pass off so easily. It is another matter, I am convinced once again, that there are not only financial subsidies, there is financial support. Society must, of course, rise up as a whole against this and do everything possible, because today there is nothing worse than this crime wave raging through the country today. Therefore I have nothing further to add here.

Bratishchev (CPRF faction): Give us a figure: How many enterprises have stopped work in Russia in 1994? And second: How does the government plan to escape at least

three negative processes—the degradation of the economic structure; the rapid decline in the competitiveness of Russian output with the simultaneous squandering of the country's resources; and, finally, the rupture of coproduction links and manufacturing chains in our economy.

Chernomyrdin: I am prepared to discuss all of your last three questions with you in concrete terms, and not in this situation. I am prepared to do that. And everything we are proposing today, the whole program that is envisaged, everything that we are putting forward here today, is aimed at resolving these questions. You and I will discuss it, and incidentally, your program, the one you have proposed, we will take that into account here too.

And secondly, as to how many enterprises have stopped work, I cannot say right now, the only thing I can do is to put in a request for that information immediately.

Chairman: Microphone two, please. Minister [of Labor] Melikyan....

Melikyan: In the first nine months of this year, 4,400 enterprises stopped work. Some 500 enterprises have shut down entirely, and losses per person totaled 14 days.

Yakovlev (DPR [Democratic Party of Russia] faction): Viktor Stepanovich, on the whole I liked your optimism, when the premier is optimistic it means things can't be all that bad in the country. I liked your idea of making economic life in the country predictable, and the fact that the DPR and the State Duma support this was confirmed when we adopted the budget for 1994, more or less in the version proposed by the government. And you called on us to do that. We voted for it, but at the end of the year it is emerging that the government is unable to put into practice its own version of the budget, and is failing to complete the revenue side.... The government itself is becoming economically unpredictable. Following that logic, why should we believe you when you say that we will live comfortably in 1995?

Chernomyrdin: Well, first, I have not yet said anything about living comfortably. I am not promising a comfortable life for 1995, and as for the budget which we are implementing together and for which the government is responsible.... True, we cannot yet implement it in the volume and in the form in which it currently stands. But at least we are doing everything possible. And we will do even more, and it is not the end of the day yet, as the saying goes. As for 1995, indeed, we have to consider together what the budget should be. And it is not only a question of the budget. It is a question of policy....

Sidorov (LDPR faction): For one reason only—that all your good intentions, Viktor Stepanovich, all your good intentions will not be fulfilled. I can prove it with just one illustration: For eight months, your ministers and vice premiers have not fulfilled your instructions. There

is the Ryazan Electrical Instruments Plant, which has developed new technology, in the government you adopted it as a national program, since it reduces expenditure on electricity fivefold and gives considerable savings in fuel. Five times you have instructed Soskovets to adopt measures and issue instructions to the relevant ministers. Soskovets has been issuing instructions to Shokhin, Shafrannik, and others since February 5. I can give you your own resolutions now. To this day, nobody has made any decisions....

Chernomyrdin: I can only say one thing, please come and see me tomorrow or Monday....

Sidorov: If you will receive me....

Gagut (LDPR faction): Esteemed Viktor Stepanovich, on 25 April our Committee on Natural Resources and the Use of Nature held parliamentary hearings on the minerals and raw materials base, where, in particular, flagrant instances of plundering of the country's natural wealth were uncovered. The exportation of raw materials and energy resources has reached such a scale that it threatens the country's economic security and is basically the main reason for the present lamentable state of the economy. All industry is drained of its life blood and the currency remains in foreign banks.... In the recommendations of the parliamentary hearings we proposed temporarily, for the period of the market transformations, to restore the state monopoly of foreign trade for the exportation of strategic raw materials and energy resources.... Do you know about these recommendations of ours? And what is your attitude to that avenue in the stabilization of the economy?

Chernomyrdin: ...When we hear all these words and exclamations today—that resources are being plundered—well, let us try and find some kind of understanding in this respect. I do not support a return to the old methods in foreign economic activity. The program you have in mind, well, let us take a look at it. I am not familiar with it....

Greshnevnikov (Yaroslavl Oblast): I am used to hearing very promising phrases from you about combating crime, about consolidated legislation on taxes, social policy, regional policy.... I am used to it because I, like others who were Supreme Soviet deputies not long ago, voted for you to be prime minister, and you promised, instead of chaos and confusion, to introduce market relations. Instead of these promises, you shelled our parliament. I don't know what you dream about at night, but you shelled it, before the eyes of children and voters.... Don't you think that the real government is not you, but the president's team? I cannot bring myself to vote for your resignation. Because mainly, I am aware that if Chernomyrdin I goes, Chernomyrdin II will come along. But the president will stay. Is it not easier, and better, to pluck up your courage and make our lives easier, your own life, the country's life, and resign of your own accord? That is the first question. And my second question is shorter. How many shares do you have in "Gazprom"?

Chernomyrdin: I do not intend to make anyone's life easier, mine or yours. I have already said, and I can say again, there is the State Duma, there is the Russian parliament, there is the president: You decide. As for my shares.... (No answer ensued.)

Yaroshenko (48th District, Krasnoyarsk Kray): It is doubtless no secret to anyone today that the decline in industrial production amounts to more than 50 percent, and one-third in the agrarian sector. The average birth rate in our country has plummeted from 17.2 to 9.4, while the death rate has increased from 10.4 to 15.9 [not further specified]. Life expectancy has fallen from 69 to 65 years. In an economic newspaper, these figures on wages were cited: in industry the average wage is 167,000 rubles [R], in the oil industry—697,000, in private firms—2.5 million; at the Central Bank—3.15 million; in commercial banks—4 million; and in firms that export oil, metals, etc.—more than R20 million. Also, according to statistics, in the first nine months of the year imports of fresh-frozen meat increased by a factor of 5.5, poultry by a factor of eight, butter by a factor of 3.2, while the same products from Russian commodity producers can find no demand. At the Kansk dairy and canning combine alone, there is produce worth R5 billion lying around today. And the commodity producer is correspondingly not receiving the money for it. Tell me please, what goal is being pursued here? To ruin our own commodity producers, or some other goal? And on the basis of these figures, tell me, do you have the moral right, as a citizen of Russia, to head the Russian Government?

Chernomyrdin: Yes, I do.

Nevezorov (210th Central): Viktor Stepanovich, everyone knows what thieves and bribe-takers the big bureaucrats are in the provinces and the regions. Please give us a specific answer, how many such bureaucrats have been removed during your time as head of government. That is the first question. Second. Our president has become, so to speak, some kind of "behind-the-scenes action." Today a very important question is being resolved, but we do not know the president's opinion, you probably know it. Most likely you called Boris Nikolayevich today before coming to the State Duma. What did he say to you?

Chernomyrdin: Maybe it's better that you don't know the president's opinion.... As for how many people have been subject to criminal proceedings and who they are, I really cannot give you that figure, but I can ask my officials and the prosecutor's office, and we will give you the figure. We will give it you, for sure. I will tell you on your own....

Gusarova (150th District, New Regional Policy): Viktor Stepanovich! You said the government is combating defaults. The worst form of violation, I believe, is the nonpayment of wages to doctors, teachers, cultural workers, militiamen.... Nonpayments and defaults depend on the federal budget and on you, Viktor

Stepanovich. How could this come about? Are there any measures or time scale for the elimination of defaults on wages for workers in the social sphere?

Chernomyrdin: I will tell you frankly and honestly. Of course, the blame for this rests first and foremost with the government. The blame does, of course. As for the reasons.... What can I tell you, you already know the reasons very well. The only thing I can say is that whereas on 1 October we had a debt of 2 trillion, today it is 1 trillion 200 [as published] rubles. We have now adopted measures, drawn up measures, look, all the government members are sitting here, by the end of the year we will completely eliminate the debt. We will completely eliminate the debt to workers in budget-funded organizations.

Moroz (55th Petrovskiy Electoral District): You mentioned just three components for economic stabilization, including attracting foreign investments. Why could no room be found for that other component, for instance, our extremely powerful science sector, and all that? No room was found for it in the program, just as there is no room for support for those sectors that were once, and indeed still are, the nation's pride. Such as, for instance, the textile industry. It is on the brink of collapse now. Raw material, wool, is rotting....

Chernomyrdin: Well, I would like to say a few words. I do not regard any sector of industry as not being important or not producing or extracting gold. For us, especially for the government, for me, all sectors are important. I too find it distressing that our light industry is suffering a particular crisis today. There are many reasons, many factors. I can tell you straight away that our wool does not sell well anywhere, nobody will take it. Even for a low price, they still won't take it. But where the wool goes is not the point, the point is that we should organize production here at home, that we should boost the level of production here at home, that we should bring prices into line here at home, so that our light industry can function. That is the first point. As for our science, where did you get the idea that we could neglect our science in our programs, in our words, in my report? We did not and will not neglect it. So things are difficult? Yes. But the main emphasis and the main hope is pinned on our own, Russian science. Was, is, and will be.

Shabad ("Russia's Choice"): ...We will not support the government's resignation, but nonetheless a question springs to mind. Do you feel that your new choice is really sincere, do you feel in yourself the strength, together with those cadres who are at your disposal, this time really to implement consistently the very same policy that should have been implemented for the last two years?

Chernomyrdin: I do feel it, and together with these and other cadres we will implement that policy.

Gordeyev (157th Saratovskiy Territorial District): I am very concerned as a deputy, because there are a great

many defense enterprises in my district, highly science-intensive enterprises, and today they are literally falling apart before your eyes as a result of the fact that the government is not even financing the state orders, yet you say we will support the points of growth in the economy....

Chernomyrdin: I could say to you: Yes, we will support those science-intensive ones, but, to our great regret, our entire defense sector—it is the flower of our nation, the flower of our industry—they are all science-intensive, they are all important. But nowadays we do not need so many weapons. We don't need them. So today, when we talk about growth points, the points that should be our jumping-off points specifically at these science-intensive enterprises that are today equipped with everything necessary, at these enterprises, in these sectors—that is where we should set up production of civilian products, products that are needed. Without, meanwhile, relaxing our attention or lessening the significance of what they have done. But this is necessary within reasonable limits. We cannot support everything today. The potential does not exist and the need does not exist. And I think that today our defense industry people, the leaders of collectives, have already grasped this. And incidentally, I must tell you not all of them are suffering any longer, not all of them. But it needs time....

Zvyagin (LDPR faction): You covered the existing state of affairs in the country quite well, but did not really answer a number of questions that, as prime minister, you really should report to deputies on. These are about the dynamics and future development of our state, the main macroeconomic indicators, you said virtually nothing about that very important question, privatization. The first stage of privatization, you and I know very well, has failed, and you know who is to blame.... With your hand on your heart, as we Russians say, answer: How do you assess your ministers' professional standard? And, without fail, how do you assess yourself, because on this matter self-assessment is important, very important.

My second question. We all know very well that in general the liberalization of prices robbed our Savings Bank investors. Does the government have any plans, at least in 1996 or 1995, for the indexation of savings, maybe 1,000 times, maybe a thousandfold?

Chernomyrdin: As for indexation, I will tell you in a minute.... [no further reference is made to this point] As for assessing my colleagues, whom I work with, the ministers especially, whom you spoke about, and especially myself, you can judge me yourself. Not just you, the whole country can judge me, basically, I am open to everyone and it is up to you to judge me. As for my ministers, they are people too, they are workers too, with their good and bad points, and I can say once again that they are people who are devoted to the cause, they work and give their all. Whether it works out well or not, that is a different matter. Certainly not everything works out,

certainly we have not done everything, true, the results tell us this. But today, you want me to say something, what do you want, do you want me to name names? I don't really understand the question. The team that we have is working and will go on working, and I have already talked about cadres and will talk about cadres and will discuss cadres with you.

Verveiko (Tikhoretskiy 44th Electoral District): I would like to draw your attention to a virtually unanimous decision of the State Duma in spring 1994. The State Duma asked you to carry out cadre changes. Specifically, the Duma demanded Yerin's removal from office. At that time you stated that this man is capable of bringing about a reduction in crime, and you let him stay on.... After that, several businessmen were killed. Journalists are being killed, ordinary, regular citizens are being killed.... What can you say to people who are afraid to go out in the streets in the evening? The law-enforcement organs, unlike other programs, are virtually 92-percent financed! They have taken the money away from children and pensioners, and what do we get? What does the government think about this?

Chernomyrdin: Of course it is bad that people are getting killed. Of course it is bad that crime is rampant, it's bad. OK, so it's bad. You said so yourself. Even today, with this implementation of the budget, we are implementing 92 percent of the budget for these organs. I cannot go and slander all our law-enforcement organs here today, from this high platform. I cannot do that. Maybe Yerin is to blame, or maybe it is not only Yerin. Yerin will report back, he will address you here, in the near future. You can ask him your question. But I do not think the problem is only with the ministry, it is not only that.

Vinogradov (62d Astrakhanskiy Electoral District): My question is perhaps the most all-embracing. What do you think, how will the political and economic situation develop in the country if the Duma votes for the no-confidence motion today? That is, what, in your view, will the president's reaction be? What will you do? Will there be cadre reshuffles in the cabinet?...

Chernomyrdin: I think just one thing—it will not get any better.

From the Committees and Factions

S. Glazyev, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Policy

Yesterday a report on socioeconomic policy was issued, containing an analysis from the viewpoint of the implementation of the main economic policy guidelines declared in the Presidential Message, which we gave our support to here six months ago.

The conclusion contained in this analysis is that the greater part of the economic policy guidelines declared by the president in his annual message are not being fulfilled. And a number of key avenues of development are going in precisely the opposite direction. Instead of

creating the prerequisites for economic growth, we have a record recession in industry. Instead of galvanizing investments, we have a reduction of one-third in capital investments in production. Instead of technological backsliding being prevented, it is clearly increasing, and the efficiency of industrial production is declining. What was regarded as an intolerable option, namely the suppression of our entrepreneurial structures by foreign capital, is unfortunately becoming a reality.... Instead of a concrete plan for tax reform, they are telling us that a fall in inflation is a sign of stabilization. But at what cost was that fall achieved! The increase in defaults, the deterioration in enterprises' financial condition, the correlation between enterprises' financial assets and deferred debts—all this is worse today than ever before.

S. Kalashnikov, Chairman of the Committee on Labor and Social Policy

Colleagues, I do not think there is any need today to try to convince ourselves that this government is ineffective. Even esteemed Mr. Gaydar here was unable to demonstrate to us that this particular government is capable of implementing even the theory that he was expounding to us a couple of minutes ago. This government is not capable of anything, but even that would not be so much of a problem if this government was not anti-people....

In the budget submitted to you, expenditure on the social sphere accounts for 8.6 percent of total expenditure. That is, we are putting in one-tenth more in this theoretical budget than was the case in 1994. And we are not taking into account the decline in GDP, which will drastically reduce, let us say, the real volume of payments under social articles of the budget.... A fall in real payments is proposed even in relation to the theoretical 1994 figures: for education, 73 percent of the theoretical 94; for culture and art—70 percent; for the mass media—91 percent; for health and physical education—76 percent, for social policy as a whole—75 percent. If these figures are related to the real 1994 payments, it must be said that in 1995 it is planned to finance the social sphere to the tune of something like 30 percent of what we have today.

V. Zhirinovskiy, Leader of the LDPR Faction

Government representatives and representatives of economic committees have tried to blind us with figures here, but all this is useless. Since 1985 they have been handing over our country, handing it over to our main competitors—the United States of America and certain Western countries, so why kid ourselves. They have handed over half the country, handed over the borders, the ports, communications, now we are handing over the North.... So it is no use pointing out arrears of one kind or another. Arrears have nothing to do with it, the country is dying, the population are dying. Every day our people are dying. We are trying to prove by a mathematical formula how to reduce inflation. Nothing can be done.... And, Viktor Stepanovich, don't worry, they will not vote for your resignation. Because some of those

deputies who handed over the USSR are sitting here, they handed over the White House, they have handed over everything. Some of them came here with money from foreign powers, they betrayed their own ruling party. So this parliament is no threat to you. Don't worry....

V. Ilyukhin, Chairman of the Committee on Security

I don't know, Viktor Stepanovich, whether you know that controlling shares have already been bought up in "Rostelekom" and "Svyazinform," foreign partners have gained the opportunity not only to influence the processes of developing communications in Russia, but to exclude Russians from the seats of control. U.S. firms are trying to penetrate our aircraft-building sector in depth. The American-Swedish [as published] company First Boston has acquired 17 percent of the Novolipetsk combine's fixed capital. The German firm Albikon [as transliterated] has bought up 20 percent of the shares in "Lipetskstement." In the course of the privatization of the Kaluga Turbines Plant, a particularly important enterprise of the State Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry and Russia's only developer of equipment for Russia's nuclear submarines, the well-known German firm Siemens has obtained 27 percent of shares in the entire joint-stock company. And it has a representative on the enterprise's board of directors. There is a threat that defense enterprises will be wound up. And that would wreck the program for building Russia's nuclear fleet for the years 1994-2000.

According to specialists' assessments, in the conditions of the disastrous fall in the ruble rate, at the second stage of privatization, foreign companies and banks, openly and through intermediaries, are buying up 70-80 percent of all shares in Russian enterprises. Thus in the course of 1994 and 1995, in the specialists' opinion, Russia's economy and natural resources could end up entirely in the hands or under the control of foreign states, which will entail an inevitable loss of sovereignty and national independence for our country. Therefore I want to ask you, Viktor Stepanovich, and Mr. Chubays: What are you doing? Do you belong to Russia, are you Russians? Who do you care about? Your own people? I have my doubts....

G. Zyuganov, Leader of the CPRF Faction

We see the solution in a change of course. In any event, if you don't do it, however people may vote, you will all be ruined by the spring. The president should be invited to our session and heard, to see if he is prepared to propose something new. If he continues this course, then we must appeal to the nation, because really the state of security is minimal.

Together, we must urgently prepare a package of laws on elections; if we do not do this by the 12th, you are leaving the country to be run by the same team, so they can do anything they like with the country.... In order to restore control, the power structure must be redistributed. The

presidential team's autocracy must be limited and the government's potential strengthened. We are prepared to give you any powers to implement a specific program, on condition: Every three months you report back, and if you are not getting it right, out you go.... We are prepared to propose specific, appropriate people. Why do you cling to those you have already named? In order to implement reforms, a minimum level of confidence is essential. There is no confidence in them, even their own people have no confidence in them....

G. Yavlinskiy, Leader of the "Yabloko" Faction

Esteemed gentlemen. Neither those who are speaking here nor those who are listening to you believe in your attacks on the United States. We do not have ruin in our country because of their spies, the ruin is in your heads. And that is why we have troubles in our country. Our faction proposes to abstain from the vote on this pointless motion.

Roll of Vote on No-Confidence Motion

MM0111160794 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Oct 94 p 1

[Unattributed report under the general heading "The Premier Has Declared—the Duma Has Spoken": "How Weighty Is 'Confidence'? Russia's Democrats Can Celebrate Victory. Twelve Percent of Deputies Supported the Government. Forty-Three Percent Expressed No-Confidence. Twelve Percent Abstained."]

[FBIS Translated Text] The State Duma has deemed the Russian government's efforts to implement socioeconomic policy and economic reform as unsatisfactory and not meeting the expectations of the majority of the population. This is suggested in the State Duma's decree on Viktor Chernomyrdin's report, which was delivered Thursday [28 October]. Two hundred and thirty-five deputies voted for the following wording.

The chamber asked President Boris Yeltsin "to set out before Russia's citizens and the Russian Federal Assembly his position on the real state of affairs in the country, on the progress of the government's fulfillment of the president's Message to the Federal Assembly 'On Strengthening the Russian State,' on the factors which have led to the current economic situation, and on measures for overcoming the crisis."

The Following Deputies Expressed No Confidence in the Government

S.N. Abeltsev, V.A. Agafonov, I.S. Anichkin, A.V. Aparina, R.B. Asayev, N.P. Astafyev, T.A. Astrakhankina

S.N. Baburin, B.Ye. Balalayev, V.A. Bayunov, O.O. Begov, N.M. Bezborodov, V.I. Berestovoy, I.M. Beshpalov, N.A. Bikalova, N.G. Bindyukov, A.M. Biryukov, Ye.M. Bogdanova, O.T. Bogomolov, V.A. Boyko, B.A. Bokov, V.I. Bolshakov, Ye.A. Bolshakov, V.M. Borzyuk, I.M. Bratishchev, Yu.A. Brusintsyn,

Yu.Ye. Buzov, V.Ye. Bulavinov, T.I. Bulgakova, P.T. Burdunov, S.V. Burkov, M.P. Burlakov, Ye.V. Buchenkov, S.N. Bystrov

M.Yu. Vakulenko, A.V. Vasilishin, N.A. Vasilyev, A.P. Veyer, A.D. Vengerovskiy, N.A. Verveiko, V.G. Bishnyakov, Yu.P. Vlasov, V.N. Volkov, N.V. Volkova, A.I. Vorpayev

L.D. Gagut, A.M. Galiyev, V.Z. Gvozdarev, N.L. Gen, S.Yu. Glazyev, S.A. Glotov, S.S. Govorukhin, N.N. Goncharov, A.N. Gordayev, R.G. Gostev, A.N. Greshnevnikov, V.S. Grigoriadi, T.M. Gudima, V.V. Gukov, G.I. Gusarova, A.V. Guskov

A.S. Davydov, B.I. Danchenko, A.M. Dorovskikh, G.T. Dyudyayev

A.K. Yegorov, S.A. Yenkov, P.V. Yefremov

L.A. Zhadanova, S.M. Zhebrovskiy, V.V. Zhirinovskiy, E.G. Zhuk, V.Ye. Zhuravlev, V.V. Zhurko

A.N. Zaytsev, S.K. Zarichanskiy, A.A. Zakharov, A.A. Zvyagin, V.M. Zelenin, V.I. Zorkaltsev, I.B. Zubkevich, A.A. Zuyev, G.A. Zyuganov

B.P. Ivanov, B.P. Ivanov, N.V. Ivanov, Yu.P. Ivanov, V.I. Ilyukhin, A.V. Ionov, V.B. Isakov, Ye.P. Ishchenko

S.V. Kalashnikov, A.B. Kapustin, G.Yu. Karelin, V.P. Kartashov, A.M. Kashlirovskiy, P.Ya. Kiriy, V.V. Kiselev, I.Ye. Klochkov, B.B. Kobelev, A.I. Kozyrev, V.U. Korniyenko, S.A. Korobov, Ye.A. Kosterin, B.M. Kostyutkin, V.I. Kosykh, Ye.S. Krasnitskiy, N.V. Krivelskaya, Yu.P. Kuznetsov

K.E. Laykam, Yu.Yu. Leonov, T.I. Leta, V.A. Lisichkin, Ye.Yu. Loginov, Zh.M. Lozinskaya, V.N. Lotkov, G.G. Lukava, A.I. Lukyanov, N.N. Lysenko

L.S. Maksakova, Ye.B. Malkin, V.S. Martemyanov, V.A. Marychev, P.I. Matyashov, B.L. Mashinskiy, G.A. Medentsov, B.B. Mikulin, O.O. Mironov, R.M. Mirsayev, A.B. Mitrofanov, E.B. Mitrofanova, A.I. Mikhaylov, Ye.Z. Mikhaylov, A.S. Moiseyev, B.V. Moiseyev, O.V. Morozov, I.B. Muravyev

V.I. Naumov, L.V. Nekrasov, V.I. Nikitin, V.A. Nikitin, V.I. Novikov

L.V. Oleynik, S.P. Openyshev, O.F. Ochinnikov

K.N. Panferov, L.N. Petrovskiy, T.V. Pletneva, V.N. Plotnikov, A.A. Ponomarev, S.A. Ponomarev, A.F. Potapenko, A.V. Pronin, A.G. Puzanovskiy, V.V. Pchelkin

V.P. Repkin, S.I. Reshulskiy, Yu.M. Ruda

V.I. Sevastyanov, Yu.K. Sevenard, G.N. Seleznev, V.V. Samago, A.S. Sidorov, M.N. Sidorov, D.A. Skum, M.N. Snezhkov, Yu.B. Sokolov, S.S. Sulakshin, V.S. Surenikov, N.A. Sukhoy, S.V. Sychev

V.L. Talanov, A.M. Tarasov, V.A. Tikhonov, T.P. Tokareva, Ye.B. Tuinov, A.A. Turusin

V.P. Utkin, Yu.B. Utkin

A.V. Filatov, V.D. Filimonov, O.A. Finko, A.K. Frolov, V.A. Frolov

N.M. Kharitonov

K.A. Tsiku

B.B. Chikin, N.A. Chukanov, S.A. Churkin

V.S. Shevelukha, O.A. Shenkarev

Yu.N. Yakovlev, A.I. Yaroshenko

The Following Deputies Expressed Confidence in the Government

Ye.A. Agafonov, A.I. Aleksandrov, G.A. Alekseyev, B.N. Altukhov, A.N. Arinin

S.S. Boskholov, G.E. Burbulis

A.G. Vasilyev, D.A. Volkogonov

M.Z. Gnezdilov, A.L. Golovkov, V.I. Golovlev, V.I. Danilov-Danilyan, B.B. Zhamsuyev

A.Kh. Zaveryukha, S.V. Zapolskiy, K.E. Zuyev

R.F. Ismagilov

M.M. Kazhlayev, Yu.Kh. Kalmykov, V.P. Kvasov, B.A. Kirpichnikov, S.A. Kovalev, V.N. Kozhemyakin, V.I. Kravtsov, A.L. Kushkar

A.M. Makarov, P.A. Medvedyev, G.G. Melikyan, A.V. Minzhurenko, L.P. Mishustina, A.N. Murashov

V.A. Nikonov

V.B. Podmasko, A.P. Pochinok

Yu.A. Rybakov, V.A. Ryzhkov

B.G. Saltykov, A.N. Sergeyenkov, Ye.Yu. Sidorov, V.M. Smirnov, V.A. Sychev

Yu.M. Ten, V.V. Tetelmin, M.O. Tolboyev, N.M. Tropin, A.V. Turbanov

A.B. Chubays

A.Ye. Shabad, S.A. Shapovalov, S.M. Shakhrai, I.A. Shichanin, A.N. Shokhin

A.A. Yushchenko

The Following Deputies Abstained

F.Sh. Arslanova

L.B. Babukh, V.I. Borodin, A.P. Braginskiy

Ye.T. Gaydar, M.I. Gaydash, B.I. Gayulskiy, A.Ye. Gerber, V.V. Gomon

A.S. Dzasokhov, M.K. Dobrovolskaya, Ye.P. Zhirkov, A.D. Zhukov

L.N. Zavadskaya, O.K. Zastrozhnaya, K.F. Zatulin, S.A. Zonkin, V.A. Zolotukhin

V.S. Katrenko, G.I. Klimantova, V.V. Kozhukhova, V.A. Kotlyar, V.S. Krylov

Ye.F. Lakhova, A.Ya. Lezdinsh, N.D. Malakhatkina, V.N. Manannikov, S.A. Markidonov, V.G. Martynova, V.S. Medvedev, V.V. Mikhaylov, V.A. Moroz

V.I. Nesterenko, Yu.A. Nishevich, I.Ye. Novitskaya

S.Yu. Orlova, A.A. Osovtsov, A.B. Ochirova

G.V. Parshentseva, M.I. Poltoranin, A.G. Popov, A.A. Popov, M.I. Popov, V.V. Pokhmelkin, Z.I. Sayetgaliyev, A.V. Selivanov, M.V. Seslavinskiy, R.I. Skripitsyna

A.Kh. Trushnikov

A.B. Fedulova

B.V. Khulkhachiyev

Ye.Ye. Chepurnykh, A.A. Chernyshev, G.P. Chubkova, G.I. Churkin

The "printout" of the results of the vote includes yet another category, comprising those who did not vote altogether—either through absence, or through their own greater wisdom. The latter include such principled leaders as Speaker I.P. Rybkin and his deputies M.A. Mityukov, V.A. Kovalev, and A.N. Chilingarov; ministers-in-waiting like A.G. Nazarchuk and G.V. Kulik; patent champions of the people like N.I. Travkin, I.M. Khakamada, B.A. Denisenko, E.A. Pamfilova, and V.N. Shestakovskiy; wholehearted radicals like V.G. Fedorov, I.I. Zaslavskiy, P.G. Bunich, G.A. Yavlinskiy.... Each one is playing his own game!

Grachev 'Ready' To Report to Duma

LD0111191594 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1824 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Roman Zadunaysky]

[*FBIS Transcribed Text*] Moscow November 1 *TASS*—Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev is ready to report to the State Duma (lower house of Russian legislature), minister's aide Yelena Agapova told *TASS* today.

Agapova rejected media reports that Grachev "is allegedly going to avoid speaking to the Duma". The aide quoted the minister as saying: "I am grateful for the invitation to speak to Duma's deputies. I have something to say, and I am ready to speak to them".

The date of Grachev's appearance in the Duma is still to be specified.

According to earlier reports, Grachev had received an invitation to speak to the Duma in connection with a

tide of bitter criticism in the Russian mass media against the leadership of the Defence Ministry, caused by a political assassination of Dmitriy Kholodov, Moscow reporter who had been engaged in his own investigation into corruption in the Russian troops stationed in Germany.

A.V. Dolgolaptev Elected Federation Council Deputy Chairman

MM0111125194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 First Edition p 4

[Decree No. 226-1 FC of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council "On the Election of Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council," signed by V.F. Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council, and dated 25 October 1994]

[Text] The Federation Council decrees that:

1. Anatoliy Vasilyevich Dolgolaptev be elected deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council.

[Signed] V.F. Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council

[Dated] Moscow, 25 October 1994

Federation Council Rejects General Prosecutor Nominee

MM0111124594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 First Edition p 4

[Decree No. 221-1 FC of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council "On the Candidacy for the Post of Russian Federation General Prosecutor Submitted by the Russian Federation President," signed by V.F. Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council, and dated 25 October 1994]

[FBIS Translated Text] In accordance with Article 83, Point "f" and Article 102, Part 1, Point "h" of the Russian Federation Constitution the Federation Council decrees that:

1. The candidacy of Aleksey Nikolayevich Ilyushenko, submitted by the president of the Russian Federation for appointment as general prosecutor of the Russian Federation, shall be rejected on the basis of the results of a secret ballot.

2. The president of the Russian Federation shall be asked to submit a candidacy for appointment to the post of general prosecutor of the Russian Federation.

[Signed] V.F. Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council

[Dated] Moscow, 25 October 1994

Regional Affairs

Pechora Basin Endangered by Usinsk Oil Spill

LD0111175694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1622 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Usinsk (Komi Republic), 1 November—The accident on the Usinsk oil pipeline in Komi is not an ecological catastrophe, but the danger still remains that the basin of the Pechora River may become polluted. This is the conclusion reached by the commission of governmental departments of Russia, the Komi Republic, and the Nenets National Okrug. The report issued today stresses: "As a result of visual inspection of the territory over which the oil-containing liquid has spread from the site of the local accident on the oil pipeline, the conclusion has been drawn that the accident has not led to global pollution of the environment. [passage omitted]"

The Nature Ministry of the Republic of Komi has imposed a fine of over R62,000 million on the Komi Oil joint stock company for polluting the environment. The procuracy of the Komi Republic has instituted criminal proceedings in connection with the accident.

The first stage of work to clear up the aftermath of the accident has been completed. The oil did not get into the Pechora River and certainly not into the Barents Sea. However, in the opinion of the commission, "objectively, there is still a danger that the Pechora basin may become polluted during the spring highwaters." There is still about 11,500 tonnes of oil on the ground, mainly in swamps. It is proposed to remove the spilled oil after the swamps have frozen and before next April.

Additional measures have been taken to ensure safety on the section of the pipe where the accident occurred: there has been a reduction in pressure and in the volumes of oil transported, and checks are being carried out daily. In December it is planned to put into operation a new 52-km long pipeline to replace the section where the accident occurred.

It is not possible to stop operating this section of the oil pipeline immediately today since this would cause the cessation of all oil extraction in the Pechora Basin, including the sites run by a Russian-U.S. company on the Ardalinskoye field. Fuel supplies would also be halted at a number of major settlements in the region, including Usinsk, and it would become necessary in the winter weather to evacuate the local population.

Komi Oil Company Tried To Cover Up Pipeline Spill

LD0111152094 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1910 GMT 31 Oct 94

[Commentary by science correspondent Boris Belitskiy on oil spill in Russia's north]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The scene of the accident is the country's Arctic region—to be exact, an area of bogs and lakes 200 miles south of the Arctic Ocean and about 60 miles south of the Arctic Circle—the cause, an oil pipeline rupture.

There is heated controversy over the scale of the disaster.

The United States Department of Energy—astonishingly the first to announce the spill to the world—put the scale of the accident at eight times the scale of the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska, considered up to now to have been the worst oil spill in history. This has been angrily denied by the authorities in the Komi Autonomous Republic, the scene of the spill, and by the Komi oil company which operates the culprit pipeline.

But even if the oil company is to be believed—and it's widely suspected of a coverup—its figures put the scale of the accident at double the Exxon disaster.

The Russian environmental authorities see American reports as being hugely exaggerated and prompted by an ulterior motive: namely, vengeance on the part of companies that did not get their share of the Komi oil pot. If that is true, and to some extent it may well be true, this has been vengeance with a gusto. Komi oil shares, which had been rising steadily, have just plunged by as much as three dollars a share. However, according to the latest reports from Russian experts who've been working there with Greenpeace, the oil has reached the Pechora River—a 200 meter-wide river which flows into the Barents Sea—and the total amount spilled is now estimated at 200,000 tons.

Undoubtedly the oil company attempted a cover-up, belittling the actual scale of the damage. Specialists from Moscow are continuing a helicopter survey at the scene of the spill to assess the real scale of the damage even more accurately. Work has also begun to replace the damaged segment of the pipeline, but this bound to be hampered by the early winter in those areas. In fact snow is already beginning to blanket the spill and it's hard to see how a full scale cleanup can be carried out before the early spring at the very earliest.

Just the initial stage of the cleanup will cost 200 billion rubles, or \$70 million in the first six months.

The accident has raised many questions:

Why were the Americans the first to alert the world to the fact that the spill had occurred? Why were there no reports from the service that operates Russia's earth-sensing satellites?

As for conclusions, while some of the American reports were indeed clearly exaggerated, local Komi attempts at a cover-up tend to undermine the credibility of their counter-arguments.

Meanwhile Russia and Ukraine have adopted a joint scientific and technical program for joint research on a

theory of pipeline reliability, which actually does not yet exist. Clearly there is a need for broader cooperation on such a project.

Oil Spill 'Curbed;' Total Spilled 14,033 Tonnes

LD0111171994 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1658 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—“The Usinsk oil pipeline accident has been curbed,” Russian Minister for Civil Defence, Emergency Situations and Elimination of Natural Calamity Aftermath Sergey Shoygu told a meeting of the Russian Government commission here today.

In his words, 14,033 tones of oil spilled at an area of 62 square kilometers. The accident took place on an area of five kilometers. A total of 11,500 tones of oil remain uncollected. The overall damage is estimated at 62 billion rubles.

The restoration spending will reach 50 billion rubles. It will be carried by the Kominvest joint stock society. Some 52 kilometers of the pipeline will be replaced before January 1, 1995. No federal budget money will be allocated.

In his turn, Minister of Fuel and Energy Yuriy Shafranik believes that the pipeline control system worked normally. He said that objective reasons for the accident were the worn-out pipeline (put into commission in 1975) and the absence of money for planned replacement of pipeline parts. Unskillful oil collection which resulted in the oil spread to river flood-lands was a subjective reason for the accident.

Shoygu and Shafranik agreed that the majority of reports on the accident, mainly those of foreign press, do not correspond to the reality. Many of these reports claimed an oil spill of 300,000 tones. Bearing in mind the pipeline capacity of 16,000 tones per day, the pipeline would have had to work completely for the spill for a month, said shoygu.

The dike around the pipeline damaged in February 1994 was washed out by pouring rains on October 1 in the Usinsk area. This resulted in an oil spill into the local rivers of Kolva and Usa, whose banks do not carry either water inlets or populated localities. The oil film was ten centimeter thick in the Kolva creeks. Both rivers run into the Pechora River, which was not polluted according to the results of an inspection.

The latter is hampered by the fact the oil has mostly spilled in swamps, and it is practically impossible to land there. Huge areas are covered with an oil film several dozens of centimeters thick, oil is reported from low lands and gorges. This will inevitably result in the death of upper soil layers, flora and fauna. The accident aftermath will be completed by April 1, 1995.

Prior Knowledge of Komi Oil Spill Alleged

954F0238A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 2

[Article by Andrey Pavlov: "Russian Authorities Knew About the Disaster..."]

[FBIS Translated Text] What happened in Komi?

As always, the official information is contradictory. Here is what the Komineft joint-stock company reports:

The pipeline "Vozey-head works" had been in operation since May 1975. Its condition before the accident was appraised as satisfactory. In August of that year there had been a leak in the pipeline's seal. A total of 23 flaws were discovered. Measures were taken to limit the leakage of oil from the damaged oil line. Thus on 26 August 92 wells, with a daily output of 1,260 tonnes of oil, were shut down, and on 6 September all oil extraction was halted at 643 wells, which produced 12,787 tonnes of oil a day.

The Komineft joint-stock company announced that it was taking emergency measures to clean up after the accident. In particular, it had developed a complex of measures which would make it possible to collect all the spilled oil before the beginning of the spring high-water period.

How much oil had been spilled? That is not the most difficult but it is the most painful question.

A quote from the newspaper TRIBUNA, which is published in Komi:

"At the conference organized by the republic commission on emergency situations a friendly laugh was evoked by the assertion from the deputy general director of the Komineft joint-stock company, N. Ponomarev, that during the well-known accident on the "Vozey-head works" pipeline in August of this year 2-3 cubic meters of oil had spilled into the Kolva River... According to calculations of the state inspector for protection of Usinskiy Rayon, Sergey Zhunev, who himself flew over not only the Kolva but also many small rivulets...more than 200,000 tonnes of 'black gold' had spilled."

The spilling of 200,000 tonnes of oil was also reported in an interview for the republic MOLODEZHI SEVERA by the former chairman of the Usinsk city committee, Viktor Polshevedkin. Incidentally, MOLODEZHI SEVERA journalists say that editorial staff was pressured by Komineft joint-stock company and there were even threats to take the newspaper to court.

According to the latest official figures from Komineft, the "volume of oil spilled during the accident amounts to 14,032 tonnes. But the 'greens' dispute this figure."

What are the consequences of the accident? According to Komineft, "the rains that occurred at the beginning of

October destroyed the water gates on the stream Palnikshor, which led to a washing away of the oil and pollution of the Kolva and Usa rivers."

This is also confirmed by figures from Rosgidromet, whose hydrological posts have established some of the oil spilled into the Usa, Kolva, and Khata-Yakha rivers. The concentration of petroleum products in the Kolva river in September reached 20 times the maximum permissible concentration, while at the present time it is within the range of the maximum permissible concentration. On the Usa river in the region of Ust-Usa village there was an oil film from 1 to 5 meters wide. Around Ust-Tsilma, where more frequent observations were conducted, the level of pollution of the Pechora river did not exceed the maximum permissible concentration. In the opinion of Rosgidromet, this makes it possible to draw the conclusion that a large part of the oil was left in the marshes through which the pipeline passes. Aerial photography established that an oil slick of from 3 to 40 centimeters had spread over a territory of about 62 square kilometers.

What will happen to nature in this region? Speaking at a session of the Komi republic parliament, the general director of the Komineft joint-stock company, Valentin Leonidov, stated that nothing extraordinary had occurred. And the "greens," in his opinion, had caused a big stir.

In the opinion of republic law enforcement organizations and Greenpeace, this was a terrible ecological disaster with consequences that are difficult to predict.

Globs of oil disintegrate over 50 years. Moreover, the northern rivers have a very weak capacity for self-purification. When there are oil spills, practically all the invertebrates in the soil, which play an extremely important role in maintaining the stability of the ecosystem, are destroyed. They can possibly (but not necessarily) be restored in seven to 15 years.

One thing is clear: Were it not for the article in THE NEW YORK TIMES nobody would have known about the accident. According to information from the Ministry of Civil Defense, Emergencies, & Natural Disasters, Minister S. Shoygu received information about the break in the pipeline near Usinsk on 4 October and notified the government, bypassing all red tape. But the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA editorial staff has reliable information that the information about the disaster in the Russian North was first received in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Civil Defense, Emergencies, and Natural Disasters from Rosgidromet on 17 September.

We have become accustomed to irrigating the Russian North with oil. Greenpeace asserts that, "according to the most modest official calculations, each year up to 50 million tonnes of oil are poured onto the ground in Russia." According to information from the Public

Committee for Saving the Pechora, the first large accident in Usinskiy Rayon occurred as early as September 1972—hot oil flowed through the river Khata-Yakha. The next year there was an accident at drilling site number 53 in the region of Vozey. The oil slick extended along the Kolva, Usa, and Pechora rivers for 500 kilometers. From 1980 through 1987 they were unable to close off a gusher at drilling site number 9 on the Pechora delta. It was necessary to conduct an underground nuclear explosion. As a result, the oil content in Korovin Bay reached 127 times the maximum permissible concentration.

Tatarstan President on Interethnic Accord

LD0111205394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2010
GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—“We have managed to consolidate inter-ethnic accord,” Tatarstan President Mintimer Shaymiyev told the Russian TV today.

The president noted with satisfaction his republic has not registered migrants on ethnic reasons. On the contrary, it admits plenty of refugees, including those from central Asia, both Russians and Tatars.

In the opinion of the president, a strong federation is possible only on the basis of mutual delegation of powers. The Tatarstan example has been followed by other republics. At the same time, he thinks that the Russian Federation is still lacking a regional policy and Moscow still wants to control everything. In his opinion, regions should have a chance to take responsibility on themselves and settle many problems by their own. Shaymiyev stressed that the center should have powers delegated to it by regions and tackle strategic problems.

The president admitted serious economic problems in Tatarstan, mainly caused by the non-payments and difficulties in the defence industry, but said that the republic agriculture is successfully developing.

MMM President Suspends Validity of Old Shares, Notes

LD0111143694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1237
GMT 1 Nov 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow November 1 TASS—President of the MMM joint stock society Sergey Mavrodi issued a special order suspending the validity of old shares and notes till January 1, 1995. BUSINESS-TASS received on Tuesday Mavrodi's address to MMM shareholders. The president also announced the introduction of a transition period regime for his company from November 1, 1994 to January 1, 1995.

According to this order, the work of the Commission on Compensations to Pensioners and Low-Income People who lost their savings as a result of the crisis, was temporarily suspended.

The address also says that “serious blunders and miscalculations were committed” during the time the MMM president was in custody. Besides, Mavrodi cited facts of “outrageous abuses” among the MMM personnel, especially by members of the Commission on Compensations to Low-Income People and Pensioners.

“The situation is that if the company resumes the normal regime of work, panicky sentiments among shareholders as well as concentration of huge quantities of MMM shares by middlemen and speculators will inevitably trigger off a new massive dumping of shares and notes,” Mavrodi claimed.

The address notes that the aim for introduction of a transition period regime is to give the company a chance to work calmly for some time, to do away with panicky sentiments among shareholders and to return, thereby, the situation to normal.

The MMM president assured his shareholders that the quoting of new notes which now sell for about 1,000 roubles on the black market, will be equal in value with old notes by January 1, 1995, that is will grow 13 times and sell for 13,000 roubles.

In Mavrodi's opinion, all shareholders who suffered losses during the crisis, will regain their money next year.

International Affairs

Kuchma Plans U.S. Visit for Late Nov

LD0111183494 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The visit by President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma to the United States, which begins in late November, will have the highest state status and will be held for the first time at a qualitatively new level, said Vadym Bohayivskyy, the head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directorate for Europe and America, at a briefing in Kiev.

According to a preliminary program, Kuchma will hold meetings at the White House, address the United Nations, and meet U.S. businessmen and the Ukrainian community. Bohayivskyy said it was planned to sign a bilateral charter, with no strings attached, and an agreement on space cooperation. The Foreign Ministry official said there were no serious circumstances surrounding the rescheduling of Kuchma's visit to an earlier week.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry does not tie in the arrival of Russia's President Boris Yeltsin in Kiev with the Ukrainian president's visit to the United States, Bohayivskyy stressed.

National Affairs

Kuchma Holds News Conference on First 100 Days

LD3110201894 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 31 Oct 94

[News conference by President Leonid Kuchma held in Kiev on 31 October. Conference follows his statement on his first 100 days in office; mediated by Press Secretary Mykhaylo Doroshenko; correspondents identified where possible]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Press Secretary Doroshenko] Now your questions, please. Shall we start with the first microphone?

[Khomenko] Borys Khomenko, Spanish news agency. Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you on the successful completion of your first 100 days in office. Second, a small remark. If it had not been for INTERFAX-UKRAINE we would have known very little about your trip to Canada. Now the question. Please tell us about the shameful practice of voting in the Supreme Council on behalf of other people, particularly as it was clearly manifested during the vote on repealing the resolution on the ban on the Communist Party. As the guarantor of the constitution, what can you do to end this shameful practice?

[Kuchma] Thank you for the congratulations but let us, for the time being, remove the word successful. With

regard to the situation in the Supreme Council, it is truly painful. As they say, this happened in the first Supreme Council and such incidents are taking place during the work of the present Supreme Council. Several times I held conversations with Oleksandr Moroz on the subject of perhaps not allowing the mass media to portray events in such a way. He assured me that a system has been worked out and it will be put into effect in the near future. Let us wait a little. I believe in our speaker.

[Doroshenko] Next microphone please

[Mykhaylo] Mykhaylo, INTERFAX-UKRAINE. Leonid Danylovych, please tell us who has been appointed first deputy prime minister and the deputy prime minister for issue of agrarian issues, and what has caused this, could you say a few words about these people?

[Kuchma] They are well known to you. The first deputy prime minister for issues of economic reform is Viktor Mykhaylovych Pynzenyk. The first deputy prime minister, head of the Coordination Committee for the Fight Against Organized Crime is Yevhen Kyrylovych Marchuk. The deputy prime minister for issues of the agro-industrial complex is Shabluk, a director of the Economics Institute, that is his name is it not? He worked as part of our team on reforming agriculture, if one can say that. He is a well-known scientist and his name is known among agricultural workers, but the main thing is that he is a person with positive views that I also share.

[Arkadiyev, in Russian] [First name indistinct] Arkadiyev, Radio Liberty. Leonid Danylovych, the assessments of your visit to Canada are various. There have been very positive responses, and there have been calmer ones. In this case I want to quote that Kuchma's visit to Canada is Ukraine's breakthrough into a higher political and economic world. These are the words of Mr. Dmytro Tabachnyk, the head of your administration. Therefore, I want to ask you to what extent you agree with this assessment.

A second question on the situation in Ukraine in connection with the price increases. Recently at a news conference Oleksandr Oleksandrovych Moroz, Ukraine's Supreme Council chairman, replied to this that he had found out about them from the press. Therefore, the question to you is: Did you know about the Cabinet of Ministers resolution of 24 October? Here is a specific example of how prices have increased—I bought a monthly pass for all types of transport in Kiev—the price had increased by 10 times. Thank you.

[Kuchma] Yes, I do not think that it matters for a Radio Liberty correspondent how much a ticket costs, yes or no? With regard to the first question, I understand it thus, I do not want to offend anyone, including my team, each praises his own area. Therefore, as Mr. Tabachnyk spoke well of the visit, well done to him. If he had spoken badly of it, then what use would such a head of administration be to me?

Second, I am not creating euphoria from this. Although, I want to emphasize that first, this was a state visit by Ukraine's head of state. Second [as heard], for the first time agreements were signed, which are important for us, such as the agreement on friendship and cooperation. There has not been one of these before. With Russia we are only working on one persistently, as they say. Second [as heard], the agreement on dual taxation. This is also very important. First, it also makes it possible, as they say, to work normally on the economy. So there was much, that was done for the first time.

The main thing for me as president is that the world is beginning to understand Ukraine's place. This is the main thing. How these agreements will be implemented in future by our side depends on the president, the government, the Supreme Council, and the state in general, and this lies ahead of us. Because truly, as our experience shows, we sign too many agreements, but not a single one of them gets implemented. This is painful. We and you should not allow this.

As regards Oleksandr Moroz and prices, it is bad that prices are getting frosty as winter approaches. This is very bad. You know, I hesitated a lot. I was also told that one should begin reform in the Spring. But I am afraid. You understand the state of our economy well, it is disastrous, and there is a budget deficit, too. We and you will not manage to get through until then. We and you do not have any right to continue to print money. I want to emphasize again that I am ready to compromise, as they say, with the Supreme Council above all, on all issues except for two. The first one is radical reforms, and I see no other way without them. The second is the executive power branch—a single one. Thank you.

[Kovtun] Alla Kovtun, FINANSOVA UKRAINA newspaper. In your speech at the Supreme Council, you, Leonid Danylovysh, said that Ukraine had made a big mistake by delaying monetary reform. Does that mean that you have chosen a parallel monetary reform similar to the one implemented in Russia in 1923? Who will carry out this reform, who is its mastermind? Note that I am not asking when it will take place.

[Kuchma] The masterminds are those who worked on the program and prepared my speech at the Supreme Council. I have also told you about the new government appointments. Every day I work together with Roman Shepek. I have great respect for Ihor Mityukov, and the National Bank chairman, however much he is criticized and even though he has made mistakes, because he is a person who wants not only to make promises, but also to achieve something concrete. This is the team I am working with.

[Kovtun] Will the monetary reform be parallel or immediate?

[Kuchma] I will not say at this point. I am telling you what I know. Any political decision or statement by the head of state, the head of government, or the head of the

legislative branch can have financial repercussions. I always say that if President Clinton or some other world famous figure says something serious, the stock exchange is in uproar, you know. I do not even want to say now whether we will switch to the new currency immediately or have it circulate in parallel with the old unit. All will depend on how we get on with our reforms and whether the world will trust us, because without a Stabilization Fund, which we are to receive from international financial organizations, we will not be able to plunge into this stormy river. Thank you.

[Skachko] Volodymyr Skachko, Nova Mova television company. My question is this: What difference do you see between the wish to help expressed by Russia and by the West, and what specifically will you do to those political forces, including the leadership of the Supreme Council, who are opposed to financial aid from the International Monetary Fund and other organizations? Thank you.

[Kuchma] Thank you. I will begin from the end. I would say this: Ask them what their alternative is. The economic situation today is such that before the end of the year we need at least \$1 billion just to pay Russia and Turkmenistan for gas. Tell me please, what is their suggestion? Even if you start printing money, nothing will come of it. As for Russia, I will say that Russia is our biggest creditor. You know that we owe Russia this year \$1.7 million interest-free for gas alone. Yes, and we owe Turkmenistan \$855 million—give or take a few. I am grateful to Russia and Turkmenistan. Second, I have held talks with Boris Yeltsin and Saparmurad Niyazov about freezing our debts, and they agree that we need to set a time and say that as of this day we will start paying for your gas and oil supplies. And you know that I raised this with Bill Clinton and had two conversations with the Canadian prime minister prior to my trip, and I asked them to invite Russian and Turkmen representatives to this conference on Ukraine in Winnipeg, so that our creditors were present during the discussion of our debts. You know that Andrey Kozyrev was there, as well as representatives from Turkmenistan, and that they basically agreed to this. Andrey Kozyrev even appealed to the G-7 not to help Ukraine the way they helped Russia, but to do it better. I am grateful for that.

[Kulikov] Yuriy Kulikov REUTERS news agency. Esteemed Leonid Danylovysh, could you please tell us how you see the process of Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and namely, what guarantees does Ukraine need and the second question, what are the main dangers in Ukraine's movement along the path of reform? I know that a Cabinet of Ministers' resolution on price liberalization alludes to the president. Is this not, so as to say, a transfer of responsibilities and the burden of responsibility onto you.

[Kuchma] With regard to the treaty on nonproliferation, I think that everybody here is convinced that this treaty will, without doubt, be ratified by the Supreme Council.

But it is a question of when. However, I will initiate this process, as they say, before the deputies. I have prepared a personal appeal to the chairman of the Supreme Council to accelerate this process. Much depends on the economic and political situation in our state and in the world.

First, and it is also the main thing, we have signed an agreement on liquidating our strategic nuclear weapons. This was the trilateral agreement signed in Moscow and we are fulfilling it. Please tell me what the nonproliferation treaty gives us? We do not have nuclear technology. Therefore, it is only a political decision and political decisions are tied up. When Boris Yeltsin was in the U.S., he signed an agreement with Bill Clinton to the effect that there would be no process [as heard] on the reduction, even on START I, until Ukraine ratifies this treaty.

Further, economic assistance also depends on this treaty. I would not like this process and the agreement to be blocked by some political ambitions or by certain groups in our society. I ask you to help us in this. If somebody really has some questions then let us discuss them. But I say again that if we signed the trilateral agreement then why delay with others?

As for the danger to security that might arise from ratification of this treaty, I have contacted all the countries that have nuclear arms: France, Britain, and first of all Russia and the United States. I received assurances from Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin that Russia will provide such guarantees. In Winnipeg, I met Strobe Talbott who told me, although I may not be a good diplomat yet, that the United States was in favor of giving Ukraine such guarantees, and that the U.S. President was working on it. So I am convinced that, parallel to the process taking place in the Supreme Council, there is a process of guaranteeing Ukraine's national security, which is also very important. But this process must not be part of a bargain deal, you give me this and I will give you that. It must be parallel.

As for the danger to reforms—see, it is one danger after another—the danger is within ourselves, most of the time. If the entire society understands it, and I am counting on your help like I said at the beginning, there will be an over 50 percent chance for us to achieve victory on this road. See, nothing will be painless today, and I am aware that there are many political forces who will use the difficulty of this process mainly against the president. I am ready for that. Someone must take responsibility after all. I told you I was ready for this. If someone is afraid of doing so and refers to presidential directives in their resolutions, I think you are capable of detecting this yourselves. Even the National Bank wrote: Following the president's policy. I think it comes from working in this room. Every time they had a plenum here, others would say afterwards: Following the plenum's decisions. The same is happening today. As if

nobody has an opinion and everything is done in accordance with the president's directives. But we will grow out of it.

[Pohorelova] Iryna Pohorelova, Respublika news agency. Leonid Danylovych, you just said you were ready for any compromise with the Supreme Council except for two issues: reforms and the executive branch. Regarding these two issues: We know that Mr. Vitaliy Masol supports the idea of setting up two ministries, for coal and for metallurgy. Has this been agreed with you, because we know that you wanted to renounce sectoral management of the economy? That was the first question. The second one: You announced that you were trying to submit a law on power to the Supreme Council. Mr. Moroz said recently he was against this law because it offered no solution to the problems of the current Constitution. That seems to be a problem, so what will you do about it?

[Kuchma] You know a lot. Thank you. I mean, about sectoral ministries. I received such proposals today. My answer is this: A commission will be formed within the next few days to look at the structure of management at the top level, taking account of everything we have, including deputies' views and those of the relevant parliamentary commissions. But I am also convinced that there should be a gradual transition from sectoral ministries to functional ones. If we had revolution today and disbanded everything, that would be no good either. You must understand that the coal industry is subsidized today and will continue to be subsidized for a long time. It needs some form of government control. Indeed, I gave my consent with regard to the Ministry for Coal Industry, as I spoke with Vitaliy Andriyovych before my departure, and I agreed to its location in Donetsk, should there be such a request from coal producers.

As for other bodies, one needs to think very carefully before making the final decision. I do not think that constant reshuffles in the top echelons, including the ministries, will bring about any improvement in the work of enterprises themselves. We will see about that.

As regards the law on power and what Oleksandr Oleksandrovych Moroz said, I do not want to argue with him. Each has to have his own opinion. I only know too well that the constitutional process and the big Constitution, forgive me the expression, is a long-term process, and we will probably have to resort to a referendum. Then how long do we have to endure this uncertainty of not knowing who is in charge? As for an interim Constitution, there are many international examples of these, including our neighbor, Poland. They have an interim Constitution and it works. I am not saying it should be one law, it may be two or three laws if the one on power is not enough. We will negotiate. The Supreme Council is not one man.

[Enevskyy] Danylo Enevskyy, FILOSOFSKA I SOTSIOLOHICHNA DUMKA [PHILOSOPHICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL THOUGHT] journal and the

EASTERN ECONOMIST magazine. Esteemed Mr. President, your state visit to the United States of America has been postponed until 22 November. My first question is whether the postponement was (?detrimental) to the visit, because it will soon be a holiday in America, Thanksgiving, when all state institutions are closed and the Congress is on vacation. The second question is about the preparation for the visit. Did Ukraine's state bodies, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Security Service, or the Ministry of Internal Affairs propose or consider establishing closer cooperation with their counterparts in the United States in combating terrorism, illegal drug trafficking, illegal immigration to the U.S., and nuclear arms trade. Thank you.

[Kuchma] Thank you. In reply to your second question, our ministries are already working closely and fruitfully with U.S. services. I think, during the visit we will sign agreements. A Ministry of Internal Affairs delegation led by the first deputy minister has just returned from the United States.

As for the time of the visit, 22-24 [November], it is, indeed, a vacation there, but it is the state visit that will be from 22-24. Before that, the visit will begin on Saturday, and we will work with all political forces and economic (?institutions) of the United States. So it is all right, and I want to tell you that this will be indeed a state visit to the United States of America.

[Doroshenko] I would like to add some information, because we had these queries before, whether it will be a state or an official visit. We have sorted that out already. But here is the information: During the two years of the Clinton Administration, there have been three state visits, by the leaders of South Korea, Russia, and the Republic of South Africa. Also, for your information, there are different categories of state visits, and only Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's was a first category visit. The visit by the president of Ukraine will be the second one in this category.

[Ryaboshapka] Svitlana Ryaboshapka, UNIAR. Leonid Danylovych, you just said that even the National Bank was referring to you and your program in its resolutions. Obviously, you were talking about the resolution by the National Bank board on unification of the karbovanets exchange rate against foreign currencies. That invites a question. At the last news conference, Mr. Moroz, the Supreme Council chairman, said that the Supreme Council would have it out with Viktor Yushchenko and the National Bank, and that there was no agreement on such immediate unification. Is the presidential team ready to support Mr. Yushchenko and the decision of the National Bank Board? Thank you.

[Kuchma] Thank you. I was referring to the National Bank resolution that contains certain aspects on which the president had to be informed beforehand. I am talking about the suspension of credits and the refinancing rate. But I want to tell you all that we had a very

good talk and we came to an understanding that this measure was temporary, for a period of 20 days. Because in order to pay increased pensions, wages, and student grants on 1 November we will need 53 trillion karbovanetsi. And the banks have only 51,000 [figure as heard] today. That is why they need to suspend credits, otherwise they will run out of cash, and I think it is right. As for the free exchange rate, I think the Supreme Council should have raised this issue a long time ago. The previous decision by the Yukhym Zvyahilskyy government, together with the National Bank, violated the law on free-floating currency exchange rates. Therefore, today's decision on currency exchange rates conforms to the current legislation in Ukraine. I cannot but support Mr. Yushchenko on this issue. [Zaucha, in Russian] Andrzej Zaucha, GAZETA WYBORCZA newspaper, Poland. Mr. President, your program of radical reforms is very similar to the so-called Balcerowicz program adopted in Poland four years ago. I would like to ask whether you are going to use the experience and advice of Polish politicians and economists, or politicians and economists from other countries. Because such a sweeping reform is quite an experiment.

[Kuchma] Thank you. I would like to say that there is no need to re-invent the wheel because it already exists. Therefore, we would have no right not to use all that which has been acquired by world science and experience. But we need to look closer at ourselves, because we are nothing like a civilized country. National color must count, especially because our mentality is somewhat different from that in other countries. HOLOS UKRAINY recently published an article on the reform in Argentine by one of our journalists who worked in South America for a long time. Did anyone see it? There is nothing to add. Some might want to keep chewing on and holding on to their seats. But already this year we saw the start of such a far-reaching inflationary process that it was impossible to sit back any longer. You know that. And when they say that the 50 trillion emission in August had no effect on the exchange rate, that cannot be. The exchange rate was also affected by the president's edict on currency regulation. As I said, every statement by a top government official affects economic life. Therefore, we are ready to cooperate with foreign experts. We work a lot with Russians. And if anyone comes to us of his own free will, we will only be grateful.

[Kolomayets] Marta Kolomayets, UKRAINIAN WEEKLY and NEWSWEEK. Mr. President, I would like to come back to the two issues you touched upon earlier. You said you were pleased with what Russia's Foreign Affairs Minister Andrey Kozyrev said in Winnipeg about assistance to Ukraine. But he also said he wanted to act as an intermediary in the granting of aid. What do you see as Russia's role in the program of radical economic reforms in Ukraine? Another question if I may, could you clarify, what are the guarantees of national security on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty that you are talking about? Is it money, or some

military alliances? Could you explain the concept of national security guarantees? Thank you.

[Kuchma] I think when Andrey Kozyrev mentioned the intermediary role, he meant Russia, not himself. I am ready to cooperate with Russia, and I would like to ask them to extend our gas credit until the end of the year. Because I do not want the money we will receive this year given away. The debt will be paid, but not the current payments, although it is incorrect of me to say this at this news conference. But we need this money urgently for our structural reorganization. You must understand that what with world prices charged for all types of raw materials, most of our enterprises are unable to function properly. They require more than they can produce. And if this money is used for structural reorganization, there will be fewer bankruptcies and less unemployment.

As regards security guarantees from nuclear states, it is internationally known what needs to be written there. Ukraine is not satisfied with what was written in the trilateral agreement in Moscow. I am talking about guarantees.

[Tkachuk] Viktor Tkachuk, Ukrainian Press Agency. Leonid Danylovych, following the above-mentioned National Bank resolution of 24 October on the unification of exchange rates, Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol was reported to have said that the decision to unify the rates was not agreed with him and the government. He was corrected by Deputy Prime Minister Ihor Mityukov who said it was agreed in the main. You are now appointing two deputy prime ministers, including such a bright star as Viktor Pynzenyk. Tell us, are you preparing to dismiss the prime minister? If not, what are the prime minister's functions while the president is heading the cabinet?

[Kuchma] I said in my introduction that I was acting in accordance with the agreement I signed at the beginning of my presidency. As far as I am concerned, I am ready to cooperate, although the skies above are far from cloudless. Whether the prime minister knew it or not, as far as I am informed, he refused to sign the resolution together with the National Bank and said it was the National Bank's affair, although I think one should not do this. It is not just a political decision, but a great economic decision, starting from freezing credits, and so on. It is the executive authorities' affair. My own proposals on the reform of the banking system envisaged means for executive authorities to influence the National Bank. It is not right for society to let everybody do what they want. There must be rules to the game and they must be observed by all, including the National Bank. You see, such a program must be implemented by a team of like-minded people. If I have to rack my brains every night or every morning worrying whether I will manage to persuade someone in the government or not, there will be no order and no action. And everybody, including yourselves, will frown at us. I am saying I am open to cooperation, and I respect the prime minister who has huge experience. May this experience be to our benefit.

[Mosienko] Dmytro Mosienko, ASAHI newspaper and the EASTERN ECONOMIST magazine. Esteemed Leonid Danylovych, soon the Supreme Council will be considering renewal of the Odessa oil terminal construction. In this connection, we would like to hear your clear attitude to the construction of a new and closure of the old Odessa terminal.

[Kuchma] I am a vigorous supporter of the terminal's construction, from all standpoints and considering the distant future. I will not be repeating what they say about Russia running low and someone having more...[does not finish sentence] You must look a bit further. I am not about to list all the pros and cons, but I would like to repeat that I am a vigorous supporter. More so because we have had a terminal in Odessa for so many years. It is in the very center of Odessa. So you must see for yourselves whose interests are at play. From the viewpoint of the state, Ukraine needs this terminal. I think the Supreme Council will make the right decision.

[Chornomorsky, in Russian] Chornomorsky, KIEVSKIYE NOVOSTI. As president, you have now been deprived of the possibility of walking about on foot. Yesterday I walked around everywhere and people joked and said that if prices get any higher they would storm the Winter Palace again. Why am I saying this? Look how fast prices are rising. Wages are also rising, but the point is that it all turns out to be ephemeral. The tax system remains unchanged. Is it fair to levy taxes, which are rising, on salaries? The other economic question is, briefly, this: You always supported the idea that the hryvna should be introduced once there is stabilization. Now the introduction of the hryvna is imminent and they say that the dollar will be taken out of circulation. Does it not seem to you that these dollars will then pour into Russia?

[Kuchma] Could you please tell me where the Winter Palace is? Which building could be the Winter Palace? The Supreme Council, the government, or the president's office? I want to say—and I also said it at the beginning—that things would not take place painlessly. I am prepared to sit down with anyone and ask for an alternative. Please propose one. Let all our factories start producing. I am not talking about cost price or about competitiveness. Please tell me who is going to buy our commodities? Who? The majority of the commodities are not required in Ukraine because 80 percent of our market was in Russia. Chernomyrdin has made speeches in the Russian Duma and I heard him say that their dependence on Ukraine is 25 percent. For whom are we going to produce these things that we have been producing so far? Who needs these machines and equipment which even our own people do not want to buy? Ask a peasant whether he would like to buy a Ukrainian sower, a winnowing-machine, or a combine. No. He is prepared to pay more and buy a [word indistinct] or some other similar make.

Let us face the truth and tell the people the truth. We must not deceive the people when we talk about private

property. Are people today not trading in land? Have the buildings near all the towns been given away for nothing? No, they were paid for but it is just that the money was slipped into someone's pocket. Why should the person who received the money not pay some of it to the state, into the budget, in order to help those who cannot survive today? Who owns the land in the collective farms, although it is true that today they have been renamed agricultural collectives? My mother worked in a collective farm until she was 70. What did she get? At that time she received 12 karbovantsi and a plot of land in the cemetery. I really want the land to belong to those who work on it. If people cannot work on it any longer then they should surrender the collective farm and rent it out. They should not be thrown out of the collective and made to wander with outstretched arms begging for something.

It is time to stop deceiving our own people, then everything will be all right. As regards the hryvna, when I came into the government I was firmly convinced that first it was necessary to stabilize the economic situation so that our enterprises could begin producing. I was right at the time. The stabilization of production in the first quarter of 1993 was well known to everyone. But at the time we were in the single economic space of the Soviet Union. We used to buy oil and gas for kopecks. We got into a mess when this market began and the agreements which our leaders signed in Dagomys in May on the transfer of trade to world prices came into effect. Other laws should apply here. That is what I think about it today. Therefore it is absurd to wait until we stabilize production. We need to stabilize our financial system as a whole.

[Perekhon] Oleksandra Perekhon, NEZAVISIMOST. Leonid Danylovych, what was the biggest surprise for you in your first 100 days in office, taking into account both the pluses and the minuses?

[Kuchma] It is a very difficult question. It is not a surprise but a confirmation that the most important thing for me was that many of the people who are in power, and who were in power under the other system, in the present situation declare one thing but behave quite differently. This is painful for me and even terrible to (?explain). You look them in the eyes and at home they are different. These are the minuses. As regards the pluses, there are not many of them, but it is good that the majority of the Supreme Council members supported my program. Both the left-wingers and the right-wingers understand that we cannot continue living like this and that radical reforms are necessary. However, they should be balanced and we should make fewer mistakes along this path. That is the main thing.

[Doroshenko] Our meeting lasts an hour and obviously...

[Kuchma, interrupting] I will add 15 minutes because of my introduction at the beginning.

[Rybalka] Rybalka, Radio Liberty. Mr. President, recently—about a month or six weeks ago—you issued a

decree stating that leaders of ministries should be allowed to break contracts with state directorates in cases where they fail to pay for gas. Please tell us whether any directors been dismissed in accordance with this decree and whether, in general, over the last three years there has been a single case of a director being dismissed from a state enterprise. Thank you.

[Kuchma] Thank you. I did not issue a decree on gas. I know that there is a decree on promissory notes and mutual credits and it envisages such a measure. But as far as I know this decree comes into effect in January. I want to say that this decree is very important in society and today mutual indebtedness is much lower. The main thing is that we have divided it up. There are state enterprises and private enterprises and the latter have a mutual debt of 54 trillion karbovantsi. The state budget constitutes an enormous figure. The state is one of those guilty of this mutual debt. It does not pay its debts. I think there was only one case, a Mr. Sledniv wrote to me and recently came to see me. The Ministry of Industry had broken a contract with him. But I am convinced, and this is what the decree is about, that without doubt it is necessary to renew the contracts. There should be one main factor in any contract: will the enterprises make a profit or not, and nothing else. If it will not, then they must find other places to work. But it is necessary to help in the situation where there are price rises. Other factors must then be immediately introduced such as the tax policy and so on. Thank you.

[Levytska] Levytska, INFORM and ZA VILNU UKRAYINY, Lvov. Mr. President, you are the guarantor of the Constitution. We have learned that only 46 deputies in the Supreme Council of Crimea are prepared to support the issue of bringing the Crimean Constitution into line with Ukraine's Constitution. How would you act if the Crimean leadership again failed to heed the Ukrainian leadership? Second, it has become known that your talks with Boris Yeltsin on the Black Sea Fleet were not successful. Russia firmly supports the position that the issue should be resolved to its liking and that the Black Sea Fleet should be based in Sevastopol. What will be the actions of the Ukrainian side in the further negotiating process?

[Kuchma] Thank you. I very much like it when you know more than I do. I took part in the talks with Yeltsin but you know the results. As regard the first question, as they say, don't be afraid to stand in front of your father's hell. Let us wait and see what decision the Supreme Council of Crimea will adopt. I am only convinced that our Supreme Council should adopt appropriate decisions. As regards the president's possibilities, I have already explained to the press that in this case the president has no reasons if the Crimean Supreme Council does not adopt normal decisions. There should be a law which the Supreme Council should adopt.

As regards the Black Sea Fleet I would like to ask you to attend Yevhen Marchuk's news conference. Today he

heads the [word indistinct] on the Black Sea Fleet and I would like to say that today he heads the negotiating process on an agreement with Russia as a whole. I appointed him. We agreed with Boris Yeltsin to raise the level of the talks. On behalf of Russia there will be First Deputy Prime Minister Soskovets and on our behalf there will be First Deputy Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk. I just want to say that there are many steps that are normal and good, but above all I want to tell you is that the main thing is Ukraine's territorial integrity as a whole.

[Levytskyy] Levytskyy, NASHE SLOVO, Warsaw. Esteemed Mr. President, could you please tell us your views on the fact that the chairman of the parliament has become the leader of a political party? That is one question. The other is this: In your speech as prime minister, you said that economic revival would be unthinkable without a fundamental spiritual revival. Today there is a total lack of spirituality. In your meetings with the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada you said that you would make every effort to put a quick end to this process. What will your actions be to support the national press and national book publishing in particular?

[Kuchma] It is good that you listened to and read what I said in Canada, but you should have read what I said here in Ukraine at a meeting of editors of all newspapers, including what I said in the Supreme Council on the subject of the revival of the Ukrainian language, culture, and so on. I have issued an instruction and it is being implemented by the government and personally by Ivan Kuras. Such a program is being prepared. That is the second question. As for the first, I think that Moroz is following developments in our society. We said that the next elections should be held on a multi-party basis and the party which wins should take power. Moroz went along this path. But the main thing is that as chairman of the Supreme Council he should defend the interests of the Ukrainian people as a whole.

[Correspondent] [Name indistinct], Haryacha Liniya press center. Leonid Danylovysh, I would like to return you to the most painful issue today in Ukraine. It is a question about power. Two documents are being prepared simultaneously and jointly by the parliament. These are a draft law on local councils and your draft decree on power. I would like to know how you, in your decree, see the organization of power in Ukraine and what are the differences between this and the parliament's draft.

[Kuchma] You understand Lenin's idea of linking the legislative and the executive power. I am against this and this is the main difference between us. I would like everyone to be engaged in their own business, including at a local level. As they say, there are international agreements in the world and there are bodies of local self-government and not legislative bodies that are not subordinated from below to the Supreme Council. I

think that is enough [word indistinct]. That is the difference. As regards the law on power which will be proposed to the Supreme Council, we will not drag out the process, it is a great deal broader than...[pauses] The law on local councils which is being discussed today in the Supreme Council is much broader.

[Correspondent] Can you be more precise? What plan of power do you propose? [Kuchma] Yesterday I read some information about what exists in the world, in all countries. First of all I want to say that all countries, the majority of countries, support a strong presidential executive power. In deciding this, however, there are so many nuances that I cannot remember. Really, I had such information. Therefore, in deciding what would be best for Ukraine we need to take into account all our circumstances and the situation in society. You know, before the election campaign I always used to say that I was in favor of the executive power being in single hands. Many from my entourage like the situation and the executive power which exists in Russia today. Others favor the French model. More than anything else, however, I am concerned today about local power. Much depends on this. It is one thing being in Kiev but life outside goes on. I have just remembered that at a session of the Supreme Council somebody made a speech. In the Donbass Shcherban is preparing one model and in Lugansk they will build communism. One should not do this. One cannot build some kind of separate model in one oblast. If we really want to be a state then the laws should be identical for all. There should be some nuances. I am in favor of giving the regions more economic freedom, but not political as many are trying to grab it for themselves.

[Word indistinct] take into account the views of society, I think that it will be difficult to adopt. I think that, although I do not want to talk about it today, we will not be able to adopt it without a referendum. The arrangement of forces in the Supreme Council is such today that I think it would be too difficult to achieve a constitutional majority. How much do we need? We must not delay this issue. Until this decision is adopted we will find an understanding with Oleksandr Moroz. I am hoping for this. Thank you.

[Correspondent] [Name indistinct], the information agency of the working trade union movement. Esteemed Leonid Danylovysh: The effectiveness of carrying out programs and reforms will depend on how they are received, perceived, and supported in society. Your speech in parliament had an ambiguous reception. I would like to ask three questions and receive answers to them. The first is this: What kind of society are we going to build? You have already answered the question by saying it is the prerogative of the Supreme Council. Yesterday Oleksandr Moroz at the Socialist Party congress said that as regards the issue of the nationwide referendum on what kind of society we are going to build, the initiative should come from the president. That is the first question...

[Kuchma, interrupting] I remember my speech in the Supreme Council very well, and when I asked this question I explained why I had done so. I then said that the Supreme Council should define its position along with a submission by the president. I am not avoiding responsibility for this. But we should build a society without any -isms so that everybody who works may live normally.

[Correspondent] The second question. You said once that the social base on which the president and the government will rely when carrying out the program and the reforms will be the middle class. In theory, what kind of middle class is it, and is it large enough in Ukraine to rely upon? The third question..

[Kuchma, interrupting] The middle class should consist of 90 percent of society that lives normally, including the trade unions.

[Correspondent] You asked for a moratorium on strikes. But the events that are taking place in Dnepropetrovsk, Lugansk, and Donetsk oblast are proof of the difficulties in deciding this issue. Tomorrow's price rises will make this issue even more difficult. The dramatic rise in prices at the end of 1992 and the beginning of 1993 ended with the resignation of Masol's government. What awaits us tomorrow?

[Kuchma] I want to say that I am prepared to cooperate with the trade unions. I am not just saying this. It is the truth. The resolutions that were issued this week have done some harm. It was bad that they had not been agreed with the trade unions. Whether they agree with them or not is a different matter, but it is extremely important to cooperate and discuss these things.

Unfortunately, not once have I heard from anybody any proposals, including from the trade unions who are pushing the people to go on strike, on what to do to improve production. Everyone is asking for wage increases. At whose expense? If production is falling so catastrophically that we have to buy coal from abroad, then where are the trade unions? I understand the difficulties and so on. I understand that there are many issues that need to be decided by the state. I understand how many violations there are on the part of those who are leading these processes. I understand all this. But it is necessary to sit down and decide these issues around a table. If only we could exchange one government for another and things would improve. I would like to say that we have this misfortune that the bench is bare. We never had a state and do not have management personnel. We were in charge of less than 10 percent of our Ukrainian economy. What are we to do? Borrow from Moscow?

[Oliynyk] Oliynyk, URYADOVYY KURYER. Mr. President, from the experience in Argentina which you referred to earlier, we know that the president there froze bank accounts which were valued at more than \$2,000. Are you prepared to adopt similar [word indistinct] steps

and do you see any ways of ensuring the return of hard currency to Ukraine which you mentioned during your election campaign?

[Kuchma] I would like to say that, for me and my team, the main thing is not to pull out individual issues that exist today from the point of view of reforming our economy. It is necessary to have a comprehensive approach. At first glance, about 60 separate laws are needed [word indistinct]. About 60 laws. We can also issue some decrees. I think that it is unnecessary to freeze accounts. It would be bad if I said this today. I promise a comprehensive and balanced approach.

I recently met entrepreneurs and directors of state enterprises. We agreed with them that if their views were to be taken into account then they should surrender their best people to the team that will be working on a whole range of legislative acts. I turn to everybody once again. Those who want prosperity should come and work in my team. It is easy to criticize but by all means criticize and make proposals. This would be a good slogan for our society. I thank you all for today's discussion. I promise you that it will not be such a long time until our next meetings. Goodbye until we meet again.

Shcherbak on U.S., Kiev Bilateral Relations

WS0111160694 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Examining issues concerning economic cooperation will be the top priority of the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States. According to NOVYNY radio and television, this is what the newly appointed ambassador of Ukraine in Washington, Yuriy Shcherbak, stated during a meeting with journalists. He emphasized that we are presently confronted with the task of expanding the entire spectrum of bilateral relations. In the ambassador's opinion, the program of economic reform proposed by President Leonid Kuchma will provide a new impact. The world's largest financial organizations, Yuriy Shcherbak said, influencing the entire economic process of our planet, are concentrated in the United States. This is why one should strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation with those structures. One of the problems that the new ambassador to the United States will have to resolve pertains to Ukraine's nuclear disarmament.

Hurenko on 'New' Communist Party

WS3110133094 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 27 Oct 94 p 2

[Interview with Stanislav Hurenko, former first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine Central Committee, by UNIAN reporter Oleh Zadoyanchuk; place and date not given: "Stanislav Hurenko: 'We Must Do Everything To Preserve Party Unity'"—questions published in boldface]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Zadoyanchuk] By virtue of a Supreme Council resolution, although it has not yet been registered according to official procedures, the edicts banning the Communist Party of Ukraine [KPU] issued in August of 1991 have been annulled. What legal consequences, in your opinion, will this decision have?

[Hurenko] First and foremost, this should be the rehabilitation of the party's members, who think they were discredited. While addressing the Supreme Council, Viktor Shyshkin stated that one must not relieve KPU of state and legal responsibility, since this political organization infringed upon the Constitution. I would like to state, however, that at the time when the Central Committee Secretariat adopted the well-known decision, the Constitution had already been amended, and these recommendations were thus of an internal nature. So, an ideology was brought to legal accountability. Thus, if the Supreme Council finds the accusations against the KPU leadership—concerning the National Committee for State of Emergency—groundless, this will contribute to the development of a democratic society, in which people have the right to unite according to their opinions.

[Zadoyanchuk] Do you plan to reregister the party's members? If you do, on how many members can you count?

[Hurenko] I estimate that the annulment of the edicts will add from 130,000 to 150,000 members to the party, and the party's numerical strength will thus double. I believe that the process of reinforcing the KPU ranks should by no means lead to the appearance of a parallel communist party. I am only voicing my own opinion and the opinion of my comrades from the Central Committee Secretariat, who were elected after the 28th KPU Congress. It is necessary to gather the members of the Central Committee and the Central Control Commission—since this is a statutory step—and resolve the question of succession to rights.

[Zadoyanchuk] Judging from [KPU Chairman] Petro Symonenko's address in the Supreme Council, one can draw the conclusion that KPU will insist that its property, "which is not being used in the interests of workers," be returned. Have you already compiled a list of such facilities, or at least the "primary ones?"

[Hurenko] I am convinced that this issue will be resolved in accordance with the law and Constitution. If someone says now that the Communists are going to chase the president out of office, take back his cars, or dispossess the U.S. Embassy of the building at which the party rayon committee was once located, this is pure nonsense. My opinion about this issue is that the party must receive the minimum needed for a political organization to operate. Regarding the issue of property illegally sold to commercial organizations, I think that it will be resolved in a legal manner. [Zadoyanchuk] How, in your opinion, will relations between the restored party and the

currently operating one, led by Petro Symonenko, and other communist organizations develop?

[Hurenko] The Central Committee Secretariat of the current KPU has recently resolved to suspend the reregistration of the party's members. In my opinion, it is not worth doing this. At the 31th KPU Congress (the 29th Congress was held in Makiyivka and the 30th—in Donetsk), it is necessary to restore the rights of all communists who did not join the new KPU. Participants in the congress will discuss serious issues concerning the party's platform. It can now be said that the Supreme Council supports a political program for building capitalism. Under such circumstances, the KPU becomes an opposition force. If, however, some of our people support the president's program, a split within KPU will be inevitable. We currently need a clear platform of an opposition party operating in a bourgeois capitalist state. I expect that the congress will be turbulent, and we must do everything to preserve party unity.

[Zadoyanchuk] How will the party behave in conditions of growing social tensions this winter, which are forecast by certain analysts?

[Hurenko] One cannot claim now that a party or a political force, either Rukh or KPU, can unite a majority of the people and keep them in check in case of social unrest. There are two paths: The first one is to introduce "military communism," which envisions the tightening of belts, expropriation of expropriators, and... go ahead to the "shining future." This path, however, is unrealistic, for a variety of internal and external reasons. The other path is connected with the president's actions. I believe that the lifting of the ban on KPU will contribute to the structuring of our society and make it more manageable. As a result of the deterioration of people's social status, I do not rule out the possibility of spontaneous protests without any slogans—simply for a chunk of bread. Since one set of idols has been cast from the throne and another group has not yet been elected, I do not think that the role of political parties will be particularly important in this regard. Everything will depend on the wisdom and decisiveness of executive bodies.

[Zadoyanchuk] How do you define your future role in the party?

[Hurenko] I am currently an adviser to the KPU Central Committee Presidium. I am convinced that new people should restore the party. The first thing we will do after the Supreme Council finally lifts the ban on KPU will be to convene a plenum, at which we will resolve organizational issues. My opinion is that we have new leadership, and it should continue the cause. We should define our position regarding successors to the KPU, which was banned in 1991, and the restored party should define its position on the documents adopted at the 28th KPU Congress.

[Zadoyanchuk] What are your predictions for the development of Ukraine's political life?

[Hurenko] The Supreme Council approved a program for capitalization of our state. I think that this opened yet another page in Ukraine's history. This was accompanied by amendments to the Constitution, which consolidated changes in our social order. The president has recently come forward with a program for the development of our society. Its characteristic feature will become the abolishment of social guarantees which were present in the former system. I think that, given these circumstances, the political apathy of our society will most likely increase and a majority of parties will lose their authority, since the level of our people's political consciousness is very low.

Kuchma, Officials Discuss Price Liberalization

LD0211100294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2327 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 2 Nov (UKRINFORM-TASS)—The implementation of social protection measures in connection with the liberalization of prices in Ukraine was discussed at a meeting held on Tuesday by Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma. Members of the government and the heads of several ministries, of the National Bank, and of directorates of the president's administration took part in it.

Representatives of the National Bank assured those assembled that they have the cash resources at their disposal to pay pensions and payments—now being re-calculated—within the course of this week.

The problem of saturating the retail trade network with goods in daily demand and food was discussed, as was the problem of enterprises' working capital under inflationary conditions, and the prospect of restricting the circulation of foreign currencies in the republic. Participants in the meeting were unanimous that Ukraine must pay its debts to other states otherwise it will be unable to count on respect in the world.

Deputy Prime Minister Views Fiscal Reform

WS2710160094 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 25 Oct 94 p 3

[Interview with Ihor Mityukov, deputy prime minister for financial issues; by Volodymyr Ilchenko; place and date not given: "We Must Change Ourselves"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The office of deputy prime minister for financial issues is one of the key posts in our state. Financial stabilization is to play a leading role during the first stage of radical economic reforms envisioned by the Ukrainian president's program. It is supposed to open a path to structural reconstruction and consolidation of market rules in the Ukrainian economy.

Our correspondent has interviewed Ihor Mityukov, deputy prime minister for financial issues.

[Ilchenko] Ihor Oleksandrovych, first and foremost, how do you see your role as deputy prime minister for financial issues? After all, there has been no such post in our government before.

[Mityukov] There is currently a shortage of cooperation between the government and the National Bank, which finances the state budget deficit. My primary task is to arrange the government's cooperation with the National Bank, as well as with the system of commercial banks, which can become an even more important creditor than the National Bank of Ukraine, since they grant credits in real money, and the Central Bank—by issuing money.

[Ilchenko] An important role in macroeconomic stabilization is to be played by international financial organizations' loans. How will this money be used?

[Mityukov] The IMF loans and the World Bank's rehabilitation credits are granted to finance the trade, payments, and budget deficits. It is important that this money be distributed among our importers not by directive methods, but through currency exchange—by selling it. It will be freely purchased for karbovanetses to finance imports. By selling hard currency, we can "pump out" oversupplies of the karbovanets and either deposit them in the National Bank to stabilize the circulation of money, or direct them to finance the budget deficit. Instead of requesting that the National Bank finance the budget deficit, the Ministry of Finance can obtain this money by selling hard currency.

The first half of the so-called STF—System Transformation Fund—is to arrive in November, and a part of the rehabilitation credit will probably arrive in the first quarter of the following year. This is, of course, not enough. We are expecting Western countries' credits granted on a bilateral basis as early as this year. Conditions for receiving these credits will be specified in each case separately.

[Ilchenko] Have all the "pros" and "cons" of the program for macroeconomic stabilization to receive the STF been taken into account?

[Mityukov] Of course, we must calculate how much Ukraine will pay for the introduction of such decisive steps. We must know all social and pricing consequences. These estimates are to be completed in the near future. Will we receive sufficient financial assistance, and will we be able to resolve all problems connected with these decisive economic measures? Financial assistance will make it possible to control the situation.

Western countries are waiting for an opportunity to move their capital to Ukraine. I am concerned over Ukraine's readiness to receive this capital. By the way, our financial system is not so bad. We are not lagging behind Russia. Another thing is that not everything was done correctly during last year; I have in mind the closing of the currency exchange. So, we should be ready to mobilize our entire financial system to receive foreign

credits. It is not easy to make use of even \$100 million, to include it in the country's budget and use it efficiently, not to mention higher sums.

[Ilchenko] The Ukrainian currency exchange resumed its operations a few weeks ago. Has it met our expectations?

[Mityukov] In the first place, there was no unanimity in the government regarding the need to reopen the Inter-bank Currency Exchange. I believe, however, that we have found a solution, drafted a plan for integrating the currency exchange into our currency market and replacing auctions with it. If the National Bank's steps are combined with certain measures taken by the government, I believe that the exchange will operate normally.

Our domestic currency market is very unstable. As a result of the decision to issue money for grain procurement in the third quarter of the year, there is a great number of unbacked karbovanetsi in circulation. I would like to point out, however, that this cannot be blamed on agricultural producers; we must improve the system of purchasing and financing agricultural production. You can see the situation with the dollar's exchange rate—it has jumped to an "alarming" level. People are more and more seldom using the services of trust funds, and commercial banks have lowered their interest rates, which were previously high enough and were "attracting" karbovanetsi. As a result of all these factors, a great amount of unbacked karbovanetsi has appeared in our market. To ensure normal servicing of the market, given the panicky demand for hard currency, we must change certain regulating levers and guarantee that hard currency is sold not to carry out illicit operations, but to purchase goods we really need. Let the Taxation Inspectorate audit each purchase of hard currency at the currency exchange, let it determine whether hard currency is used according to contracts presented to banks before the transaction takes place. Banks are not against this, since they are obliged to control hard currency operations.

You know that tender committees work in such a way, that the final purposes, for which all the hard currency they distribute is to be used, are examined by the Taxation Inspectorate. A presidential edict envisions substantial fines for inexpedient, meaning inefficient use of hard currency. The limits on using hard currency to purchase goods which are produced in Ukraine will be maintained. We should protect our market, all the more so, since our producers are in a difficult situation. Second, the currency exchange should "actively" work, from the National Bank's point of view, particularly, to intervene in hard currency and karbovanets' operations, so that we avoid violent fluctuations in the exchange rate. This year, the exchange rate has been either rising or falling, and this is inconvenient for everybody. If we consent to devalue the karbovanets, it should be predictable and smooth to prevent producers' losses and conditions favorable for hard currency profiteers. We also

need them, but everything must remain within reasonable limits. The National Bank sent a wire defining the currency exchange's operations, and the Cabinet of Ministers added its remarks and recommendations.

[Ilchenko] An important role in stabilizing finances and overcoming the crisis of payments is reserved by the presidential team for the circulation of bills of exchange. A presidential edict has been issued in this regard. Is Ukraine ready to implement it?

[Mityukov] The edict must be implemented. The Ministry of Finances is facing an extremely important task to work on the implementation of presidential edicts.

In the fourth quarter of this year, additional emissions of money, according to the Supreme Council resolution, will be conducted by issuing short-term promissory notes from the Ministry of Finance. This is the direction in which we should move. Only in this way will we be able to restructure the domestic debt. Beginning with this, we can build a system of the state's financial policy, social safety net, and relations between the Ministry of Finance and the National Bank. The issuing of bonds is an extremely important issue. The Ministry of Finance is creating a source for financing the budget deficit, which is an alternative to the National Bank's decisions regarding money emissions. This direction should thus be supported and developed by all means.

[Ilchenko] The possibility to increase the minimum wage is currently being discussed at all levels. What is your opinion about this issue.

[Mityukov] I believe that we should abandon previous stereotypes. Increases in wages, indexation of working and capital stocks, and other centralized decisions are made only if it is really necessary. Increases in wages are necessary. The problem lies somewhere else, however. The point is not the indexation of wages as the primary way to resolve the contradictions between the interests of labor and capital. We must create a mechanism, which would make it possible to realistically assess our workforce. Unfortunately, the former policy led to an artificial decrease in the value of labor, because the prevention of increases in wages was used as the main factor regulating prices on the consumer market. As a result, the value of labor is horribly underestimated. The market should indicate its real value. Look at the difference between wages in the budget sector and commercial companies, which are operating in market conditions. I am not talking about brokerage companies, but large joint-stock and leased companies. People have high wages there, but they earn them. So, the main thing in a policy of remuneration for labor is not to set the minimum wage, which would protect society—the Ministry of Social Protection and appropriate welfare programs are to protect it—but to remove restrictions hampering workers' initiative. A state is rich if all of its people are rich.

Over the last two or three years, we have made many mistakes. The primary mistake is that we have run up

bills for our children. We have squandered and wasted a lot of money, primarily, connected with energy resources, of which we are consuming more than we produce. We must pay for them. However, since we are not able to do that, our children will have to pay for them. We must bring an end to this squandering, since not only we but also those who give us goods on credit—people in countries to which we owe money for delivered products—are suffering from this. We must change ourselves.

'Zero Rated' Incident Occurs at Power Station

LD0111180994 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1630 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The second unit of the South Ukrainian nuclear power station has been shut down in order to eliminate a defect in one of the pipelines in the turbine section. The incident was estimated to rate zero on the international danger scale.

Belarus**President 'On Holiday,' Discusses Economics***LD0111131294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1102 GMT 1 Nov 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Schogoleva]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sochi, 1 Nov—Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, who is on holiday in Sochi, plans to hold discussions with the kray leadership in the next few days on issues concerning the setting up of direct economic ties between Krasnodar Kray and Belarus.

Vladimir Sheyanov, deputy head of the Sochi administration, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that the meeting will be unofficial. In particular, what will be discussed is the mutual delivery of foodstuffs and manufactured goods.

According to information at the disposal of the Sochi administration the Belarusian president will spend about 10 more days at the resort.

Aide Briefs on Lukashenka First 100 Days*WS0211091294 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0800 GMT 2 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On November 1, Alyaksandr Fyaduta, chief of the Public and Political Information Board at the President's Administration, met journalists at the National Press-Center. Attention was focused on the results of Alyaksandr Lukashenka's first 100 days in office. According to A. Fyaduta, firstly, "these days were a school of compromise and a school of civil concord" in the country. Secondly, "holding talks with Russia, the president of the independent state upheld the national pride of his people, strengthened the independence of his country." Thirdly, in A. Fyaduta's opinion, these 100 days were a striking illustration of the fact that the president's policy is socially oriented market reforms in the country.

Most of all the press took an interest in Alyaksandr Lukashenka's state of health and his departure to Moscow for medical treatment. Strange as it is, A. Fyaduta said nothing concrete about this matter, neither confirmed nor refuted some talk that A. Lukashenka was to undergo an operation in Moscow. A. Fyaduta referred the press to the minister of health or directly to the doctor in charge of the case. According to some unchecked information, regardless of A. Fyaduta's version, at present Alyaksandr Lukashenka is in Sochi, Krasnodar region, Russia, and what is more, he is alleged to have arrived there directly from Minsk.

President Appoints Ministers, Deputy Ministers*WS0111101794 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0830 GMT 1 Nov 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In accordance with the president's decrees, the other day Valyantsin Sukala was

appointed minister of justice, Ivan Lyakh—deputy minister for antimonopoly policy, Vasil Chalowski—deputy minister of transport and communications, Yavhen Valodka—chief of the Belarusian Railways. The new appointments are not notable for their revolutionary character. For instance, the president's decree only confirmed the former position of Yavhen Valodko. Ivan Lyakh, who headed the State Committee for Antimonopoly Policy, has become head of the ministry with the same name. Valyantsin Sukala has exchanged the post of deputy minister for that of minister, and V. Chalowski filled one of the high positions at the same Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Hryb, Shumeyko Address Journalists on Treaty*LD0211112694 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Our president recently returned from a representative meeting of heads of government of CIS states. And now Vladimir Shumeyko, chairman of the Russian Council of the Federation and chairman of the Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS countries, is in Minsk on an official visit. At today's news conference which took place at the National Press Center, relations between Russia and Belarus on various issues were discussed. Here is journalist Ivan Gladky with details:

[Gladky] Before the news conference the journalists received a statement from Vladimir Shumeyko and Mechyslaw Hryb, chairman of the Belarusian Supreme Council, which in particular conveys satisfaction with the decision of the presidents of Russia and Belarus on preparing the Russian-Belarusian interstate treaty on friendship and cooperation which would comply with the aspiration of Russia and Belarus to build democratic states with a socially oriented market economy. The statement notes that Russia will remain Belarus' main partner in its efforts to end the economic crisis.

The correspondents asked many questions of both Vladimir Shumeyko and Mechyslaw Hryb. Here are some passages from some of the answers:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Shumeyko] Today we had official negotiations at the Belarus Supreme Council. Just before this news conference we had negotiations with the [Belarusian] prime minister with whom we discussed for a long time the initiative of three working groups of three parliaments—those of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine—concerning creating a model law on financial and industrial groups. We think that such a model law if adopted [words indistinct] on the creation of large financial and industrial groups would enable us to bring the economies of our countries even closer.

[Unidentified correspondent] Do the Belarusian lawmakers take into consideration Russia's experience in carrying out reforms? And how do they intend to create customs and monetary unions?

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[Hryb] We have been taking into account for a long time the practice used by the Russian parliament in developing and adopting laws. We are grateful to the Russian Government and its leadership, the leadership of both chambers, for always responding actively to our requests and proposals. As for a customs and monetary union, there are practical proposals along the line of the executive power and I think we should adopt them because these are two components of an economic union. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Sign Statement on 'Priority Tasks'

LD0111140894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1122 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Minsk, 1 November—The belief that "through joint efforts, Russia and Belarus will overcome political-economic crisis and create proper conditions of life for their peoples" is expressed in the statement signed today by Vladimir Shumeyko, head of the Russian Federation Council and Mechyslaw Hryb, head of the Belarusian Supreme Council. They met as part of the official visit by a Federation Council delegation to Minsk.

In the statement, the heads of the top legislative bodies of Russia and Belarus voiced satisfaction about the decision of the republics' presidents to draw up a Russian-Belarusian interstate treaty on friendship and cooperation. They expressed confidence that Russia "remains Belarus' main partner in its efforts to emerge from economic crisis and confirmed the willingness of the top legislative bodies of both states to contribute significantly to the treaty on friendship and cooperation".

The statement notes that the creation of economic, currency, and customs unions are regarded as priority tasks. They consider the idea of resuscitating the USSR or other forms of political unification as "an illusion." The parliamentary heads of the two states came out strongly in favor of strengthening and developing the CIS "as the only realistic form of economic cooperation today" between the republics of the Union.

"Strengthening the CIS on all fronts—that is the motto of our talks today with Belarus," Vladimir Shumeyko told an ITAR-TASS correspondent. In his view, it is now "necessary to develop what already exists, namely the Commonwealth of Independent States." Vladimir Shumeyko, who is chairman of the Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of CIS countries, noted that the Supreme Council of Belarus is an active participant in the Interparliamentary Assembly. During the present visit, the Russian Federation Council delegation

"would like to see the interparliamentary level of relations first-hand." States like Belarus and Russia should "live together," stressed Vladimir Shumeyko. It is the task of parliaments also to ensure that the ties which have been established over centuries between Russia and Belarus continue to develop for the benefit of their peoples while preserving the freedom and sovereignty of states.

Polish Foreign Minister Closes Minsk Visit

WS0111154294 Minsk BTK Television Network in Belarusian 1900 GMT 26 Oct 94

[Recorded video report by Viktor Kharkow]

[FBIS Translated Text] Poland's Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski paid a one-day working visit to Minsk today.

Bad weather conditions forced the Polish foreign minister to delay his take-off from Warsaw. His reception at the Minsk-2 airport was postponed for one hour and a half. However, such unforeseen circumstances, as it turned out, have not hampered the realization of the intensive program of the visit. Incidentally, the visit was given considerable attention by our country's leadership due to the Polish minister's influence and his significance in the Polish political arena. It was not without reason that Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, during today's meeting, took the liberty to call Andrzej Olechowski's further political perspective an excellent one. Talks between the Belarusian president and the Polish foreign minister proceeded from new interests of both states, whose relations have been founded on good-neighborliness. A legal basis for these relations was created through agreements and accords signed earlier. However, time requires new approaches for intensifying cooperation, as both sides emphasized, while noting the concurrence of their views in discussions on concrete issues.

The economic aspect of mutual relations between Poland and Belarus was the primary topic of talks between Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski and Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir. They agreed that both countries' resources in the economic sphere are far from being utilized to a full extent. An alarming symptom has been observed in mutual trade turnover which has decreased lately because of inconsistency in mutual settlements, unconformity in legislation, and passivity of economic entities. Expanding mutually beneficial cooperation can be possible only by regulating these processes and alleviating artificial barriers. The visit can be objectively assessed as truly effective.

Direct talks between Polish Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski and Belarusian Foreign Minister Uladzimir

Syanko were attended by a wide circle of experts, advisers, and representatives of various ministries. This is the way contacts should be developed in order to achieve pragmatic results. Today's visit resulted in the signing of a protocol on cooperation between the Foreign Ministries of both states, an agreement on timely notification about nuclear disasters, and an agreement on legal assistance. In addition to these important documents, the visit, as it was emphasized at a news conference, will give impetus to new political efforts. President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, in particular, accepted an invitation to visit Poland next year. The visit also yielded constructive results by achieving harmony regarding views on issues connected with the European community, where both Belarus and Poland should take their proper place. As to bilateral relations between both countries, they will be developed on the basis of mutual interests.

National Bank Currency Measures Take Effect

WS0211085994 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0800 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] On November 1, a number of measures by the National Bank came into force. Since that day people are free from declaring the foreign currency resources they place on accounts at commercial banks. From November 1 to December 31, the National Bank will amnesty the resources which managing organizations keep abroad without the National Bank's license on condition that these resources are transferred to banks on the territory of Belarus within this period of time. The state hard currency fund being abolished, all the state hard currency resources will be concentrated at the National Bank. A new procedure of controlling the export receipts and imported goods was introduced. Henceforward managing organizations have to sell 50 percent of their receipts in Russian rubles. At the same time the National Bank authorized the opening of deposits in the currencies of the CIS member-states at banks on the territory of the country.

Moldova

Official on Accepting 'Eurasian Union Project'

LD0111153994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1352 GMT 1 Nov 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau November 1 TASS—Moldova as other CIS states, is not ready to accept the political integration ideas of the Eurasian union project proposed by Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Moldova's permanent envoy to the CIS, Jacob Mogoryanu, said in an interview published today. Mogoryanu said "this option could be of tragical consequence in the present conditions, when most CIS countries are forming their own statehood and institutions of democracy."

Commenting on Chisinau's negative response to the recent Romanian statements about the likelihood of the two countries' unification, Mogoryanu denied that the statements could induce Chisinau to join the CIS collective security system. "Moldova does not intend to take part in CIS's politico-military activities, at least not in the nearest future," Mogoryanu said. The envoy stressed that such a stance "meets with an understanding within the deepest CIS structures, and there are no attempts to make us alter it."

Mogoryanu described the results of the recent Moscow meeting of CIS heads of state as good enough. He said he thought the former Soviet republics were taking "the path of natural decision-making through consensus instead of putting pressure on a state."

The Moldovan envoy said the signing of the agreement projecting an Interstate Economic Committee (IEC) was very important to Moldova. "The IEC is a motor for the economic union, that is, a guarantee of an economic environment which will help Moldavia and other CIS states to overcome crisis and incorporate the world community," Mogoryanu said.

Kazakhstan

President Nazarbayev Receives Clinton Envoy

LD0111190094 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today President Nursultan Nazarbayev received James Collins, senior coordinator for U.S. policy on the newly-formed independent countries and ambassador for special missions, who arrived in Almaty leading the American side of the joint U.S.-Kazakh committee. As has already been reported, an agreement on establishing this committee was reached during our head of state's official visit to the United States in February this year. The guest conveyed President Bill Clinton's greetings and best wishes as well as a message from Vice President Albert Gore to Nursultan Nazarbayev.

During the conversation, they expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between the two countries in various areas of mutually advantageous cooperation. There was also a detailed exchange of views on urgent problems of their bilateral links. In particular, it was noted that the U.S. Government duly appreciates the role of Kazakhstan in the world community and particularly in Central Asia. The U.S. Government approves of the republic's efforts to reform its economy and of its transition to a new high level of development through foreign market relations. James Collins said he has a high opinion of Kazakhstan's foreign policy and of its actions aimed at a peaceful settlement of conflicts in the Caucasus, Tajikistan, and other regions of the CIS.

Nursultan Nazarbayev in turn asked the guest to convey his greetings and best wishes to Bill Clinton and Albert Gore.

Tulegen Zhukeyev, secretary of the Security Council of Kazakhstan, Foreign Minister Kasymzhomart Tokayev, and U.S. Ambassador to Kazakhstan William Courtney attended the meeting.

Germans Entrepreneurs Disappointed in Economics

LD0111142594 Almaty PANORAMA in Russian 22 Oct 94 p 8

[FBIS Translated Text] Entrepreneurs from Germany spent a week in South Kazakhstan but did not sign a single agreement. An imposing delegation of German manufacturers and entrepreneurs has visited South Kazakhstan Region. Led by Frank Mueller, director of the Saxon society promoting trade with Eastern countries, the nine members represented firms specializing in various fields of production.

In the course of their week-long trip, the German manufacturers familiarized themselves with all the main enterprises in South Kazakhstan. They held a news conference on the results of their trip.

The guests declined to comment on the state of our production sector, but noted that "Kazakhstan is really a developing country." Only the representative of the Nagema firm shared his fears about the state of a bakery in Chimkent, remarking that any one of the four ovens could break down at any moment and leave a quarter of the city's residents without bread.

According to the German entrepreneurs, not one specific agreement on cooperation was signed during the visit. This was prevented by the imperfect legislation, the shortsightedness of local entrepreneurs, who still prefer to work to get their own foreign-made cars, and the corruption of officials, which the guests did not, however, say much about.

Nevertheless an agreement in principle was reached on cooperation with two Chimkent banks. The priority spheres of interests of west German capitals in the region were also defined. Above all, these include agricultural produce processing and engineering.

At the end of the press conference the German representatives affirmed that they have considerable experience of work with the former USSR, and invited representatives from the regional administration to visit Germany to draw up specific agreements. Private entrepreneurs have not yet received such invitations.

Kyrgyzstan

Foreign Ministry Protests PRC Nuclear Test

LD0111174794 Bishkek SLOVO KYRGYZSTANA in Russian 21 Oct 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] A meeting was held between Deputy Foreign Minister T. Chinnetov and the temporary charge d'affairs of the People's Republic of China to Kyrgyzstan, Chen Dyanchjo at the Foreign Ministry during which a statement by the Foreign Ministry was given to the Chinese charge d'affairs in connection with the carrying out of an underground nuclear test on the Lob-Nor test ground.

"According to information received, a regular underground nuclear test was carried out on the Lob-Nor test ground in China on 7 October 1994.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers that nuclear tests have a bad effect on the ecological situation and the health of the population of Kyrgyzstan, a state that directly borders upon the region of China where these tests are carried out.

"The ministry is concerned that the continuation of nuclear tests by China may threaten the observance by other nuclear states of the existing moratorium on nuclear tests.

"We again emphasize the necessity of establishing a joint commission to examine the consequences of nuclear tests on the sites in Semipalatinsk and Lob-Nor.

"Kyrgyzstan, within the framework of the initiative on the creation of a non-nuclear zone in Central Asia that it submitted at the 49th session of the UN General Assembly, supports China's aspiration to achieve the complete destruction and prohibition of nuclear weapons and also a comprehensive prohibition of nuclear tests, and calls on China to show restraint in future and not resume nuclear tests which will help in the speedy conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty."

In his turn the Chinese diplomat handed over the text of a statement on this topic by a spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry to T. Chinetov.

"On 7 October 1994 China carried out an underground nuclear test.

"China develops and possesses a small nuclear-weapon potential exclusively for the purposes of self-defense. At the same time it is in favor of achieving agreement on the speedy and complete destruction of all nuclear weapons by nuclear states. China always shows great restraint in regard to nuclear tests and the number of nuclear tests carried out in China is less than in other nuclear states.

"We take an active part in the Geneva talks on concluding a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty and hope that a treaty on the complete prohibition of nuclear tests will be concluded soon, no later than by 1996, through talks. Then China will immediately halt carrying out nuclear tests from the moment when such a treaty comes into force.

"China is always against the policy of nuclear-threats and once more calls on other nuclear states to give an active response to its initiative and immediately begin talks on the conclusion of a treaty on no first use of nuclear weapons against each other and simultaneously reach an agreement on not using, and not threatening to use, nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states and zones. This will create favorable conditions for the fastest implementation of a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests."

Opposition Party Demands Annulment of Referendum Result

LD0111141794 Bishkek RES PUBLICA in Russian 28 Oct 94 p 1

[Unattributed article: "To K.Boobekov, chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan; to the people of Kyrgyzstan, the states of the world, and international organizations."]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 22 October this year a referendum and elections to local councils were held and the basic principles of the Constitution and the laws of Kyrgyzstan as well as elementary norms of democracy and justice were grossly violated. The Central Electoral Commission was not elected by parliament as envisioned by the Constitution and the law on elections but

was appointed by the president, which is an anticonstitutional step. These elections and the referendum are illegal if only on the grounds that they were conducted by a Central Electoral Commission which does not have legal authority.

A series of articles of the existing Constitution and laws were actually abolished and rewritten by presidential decrees.

There are many facts which are evidence that the following took place everywhere at polling stations on 22 October 1994:

1. A large number of voters received ballot papers without producing their passports and, as a result, the same people voted several times.
2. Many people voted in behalf of their relatives and this was allowed openly by the heads of the polling station commissions despite protests from observers and agents.
3. A great number of ballot papers were placed in ballot boxes on the pretext they contained proxy votes.

The absolute majority of electoral commissions raised the percentage of people who voted for changing the Constitution to 85 percent by trickery and forgery and thus fulfilled their instructions from above. According to observers and agents, not more than 20-30 percent of the electorate turned up at many polling stations.

In democratic countries, among which Kyrgyzstan also belongs according to its constitution, a single incident of forgery or eavesdropping is enough to cancel the results of elections, a referendum, or to force the president to resign.

Proceeding from the above the Presidium of the Political Council and the Council of the Bishkek city organization of the Democratic Party of Free Kyrgyzstan demand that you, Mr. Chairman, cancel the results of the referendum and the elections to the local councils held on 22 October 1994.

[Signed] The Presidium of the Political Council and the Council of the Bishkek city organization of the Democratic Party of Free Kyrgyzstan.

Tajikistan

CSCE Observers Arrive for Referendum

LD0111130494 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Jacques Rosselliet is one of the three CSCE experts who will prepare a report for this authoritative international organization bureau on democratic institutions and human rights on the results of the referendum and presidential election in the Republic of Tajikistan. He arrived in Khodzhand yesterday. His two colleagues, (Fredrick Klin) and (Vislav Yanosh) arrived in Dushanbe today. Other international

observers from the United Nations, the United States, Russia, the Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth countries, Turkey, and other international organizations are expected to arrive [in Tajikistan]. In other words, the referendum on adopting a constitution and the presidential election of the Republic of Tajikistan are at the focus of the world community.

Security Ministry Reaffirms Support of Government

LD0111150594 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0200 GMT 01 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The workforce of the Security Ministry of the republic has approved a statement to the people of Tajikistan, which says:

Respected compatriots, dear parents, sisters and brothers! Independent Tajikistan is facing a drastically important historical period. Our motherland is on the edge of great political events: approval of a new constitution and the election of the president of the republic which will ensure a normal situation in the country and our happiness, maintain peace and tranquillity in the republic, secure a guarantee of its inhabitant's rights, and define the future path of the political, social and economic development of the country.

The workforce of the Security Ministry of the republic and its troops have selflessly defended the constitutional government under the complicated conditions of the civil war. They will develop decisive measures to further normalize the political situation inside the country, to ensure the unity and integrity of the Tajik state and to prevent senseless bloodshed. The employees of the ministry are taking an active part in the repatriation of refugees to the homeland, and in ensuring peace and national concord in Tajikistan.

In the very difficult conditions when the fratricidal war was continuing, the 16th session of the people's representatives laid on the shoulders of Emomali Sharipovich Rakhmonov the fate of its long-suffering people. It was the peace-loving policy carried out by Emomali Rakhmonov which caused the flame of civil war to be extinguished in a very short time and the paralyzed state structure was revived, the forces of the national army and border troops were founded and a great number of the refugees and forced migrants were repatriated to the homeland.

A definite advance has been made at the inter-Tajik talks, as result of which the temporary cease-fire agreement was signed. Practical talks intended to preserve peace and permanent calm in the republic are under way.

The statements of the head of state at sessions of the Supreme Council and the proposals made by him at the UN General Assembly and meetings of the heads of the CIS have been supported and approved which has caused an increase in Tajikistan's reputation on the

international arena and brought about the conditions for founding a democratic and constitutional state in this land.

The workforce of the Security Ministry, supporting the statement of the Leninabad Region interior bodies workforce, intends to maintain the policy and process supported by the people, the basis of which lies in stability, peace, and social and political normality in the republic, and call on the whole population of the republic to take an active part in approving the new constitution and electing the president of the Republic of Tajikistan.

This statement was approved at the meeting of the Ministry of Security's workforce on 31 October 1994.

Dostiyev Talks With Opposition Leaders

LD0211090794 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0400 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Yesterday the government delegation led by Abdulmajid Dostiyev, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, which conducted talks with opposition leaders in Islamabad, returned to Dushanbe.

To all appearances, the sides achieved mutual understanding, which is worthy of praise. An agreement on prolonging the cease-fire and cessation of other hostilities inside Tajikistan for three more months until 6 February next year, was reached. Abdulmajid Dostiyev expressed gratitude to the United Nations, Russian, Uzbek and Pakistani representatives who promoted the attainment of mutual understanding at the inter-Tajik talks.

However, this is not the end of the talks. They will be continued.

Abdullojonov Answers Questions

LD3110220894 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1415 GMT 31 Oct 94

[Question and answer session with Abdumalik Abdullojonov, presidential candidate and ambassador to Russia; questions read by unidentified moderator; place not given—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer] Abdumalik Abdullojonov, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to the Russian Federation, a people's deputy of Tajikistan, was born in 1949 in the town of Khujand. After finishing the general secondary school he studied at Odessa technological institute. He worked in the flour mills of Kayrakumskiy and Nauskiy Rayons from 1971 to 1980. He was appointed deputy Tajik minister of food products in 1980. Abdullojonov studied at the Academy of National Economy under the Council of Ministers of the former Soviet Union from 1984 to 1986. From 1986 to 1987 he worked as the first deputy minister of food products of Tajikistan and from 1987 to 1992 he worked as the

minister of food products of Tajikistan. By decree of the 16th session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, Abdullojonov was appointed chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan in 1992. In January 1994 he was appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to the Russian Federation. He is married and has two children.

Dear television viewers, Tajikistan is on the eve of important political events, which will be remembered forever. One of these events is the adoption of the Constitution of the republic, which will be adopted through nationwide discussion, and the second event is the presidential elections. A few days are left until these important events, i.e., until 6 November, and Tajik TV is intending to organize direct television debates with both candidates registered by the Central Electoral Commission. Our first debate is with presidential candidate, esteemed Abdumalik Abdullojonov, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Tajikistan to the Russian Federation. I would like to recall that the next live debate with presidential candidate Emomali Rakhmonov, the chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, will take place at this hour [1415 GMT] on 2 November 1994. [passage omitted]

[Abdullojonov] Good evening dear television viewers and compatriots. It is an hour for us to rely on our people's wisdom to see white from black. I have seen with my own eyes the difficult living conditions of people during my election campaign. An absence of cash caused a lack of confidence in the government among the workers, teachers, farmers, physicians, pensioners, students, and all the people of Tajikistan. I am grateful to my people despite all the difficulties. The people are looking forward to peace and want their sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers, and children to return home—to Tajikistan—as soon as possible. The people will begin a peaceful labor if peace and tranquillity is restored, and the fighters surrender. In such a situation, and with the hope of ensuring peace and tranquillity, I have put forward my nomination for the post of president of the Republic of Tajikistan. I will urgently resolve the following issues if almighty God and my suffering people support me and I become the president. These are [words indistinct], bread, issues relating to money in cash, the provision of electricity and fuel for the national economy, the reconcilable fight against crime, and the most important matter is the strengthening of friendly relations and cooperation with the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan. These are the issues that we had to resolve one year ago. But unfortunately, this did not happen.

Dear compatriots, I have said and I am going to repeat that I do not make any promises if I am not confident. I would like to point out that I will definitely resolve all the above mentioned issues. I will clear up those allegations against me that have been especially imagined by

known groups. There is a rumor alleging that Abdullodzhaonov does not respect those people who have reconstructed the constitutional government. I would like to say that not only I, but also the whole Tajik people will never forget the service of those people who have reconstructed the constitutional government.

There are unfounded rumors alleging that I have connections with Shodmon Yusuf [chairman of the Democratic Party of Tajikistan], Davlat Usmon [deputy chairman of the Islamic Rebirth Party], Turazhonzoda [former spiritual leader of Tajikistan], and the opposition. I would like to categorically point out that I did not, and have not had connections with these people. The reason for this is that my aims and intentions are completely different from theirs. When I was the chairman of the Council of Ministers in the government of national reconciliation [from May to November 1992], I only resolved the economic issues and did not allow people to go hungry. We have to continue the political dialogue with the progressive wing of the opposition for the sake of the unity and integrity of the nation. Speaking about allegations that I will remove the capital of the republic from Dushanbe to Khujand and divide Tajikistan into parts if I become president, I would like to say that ensuring the integrity of the republic and national unity is one of my main aims for running for the presidency.

Dear compatriots, when we are speaking about the destiny of the nation, we have to put all private and local interests aside and to work hard. I am not going to speak about other rumors and accusations. The people would not support my nomination, and the state and government of Tajikistan would not register my nomination to the post of president if these accusations were true.

Dear compatriots, thank you very much for your support and understanding. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Esteemed Abdumalik Abdullojevich, here is a question from Azizov Abdujabbor, an employee of Dangarinskiy executive committee. Dear Abdullojonov, we have familiarized ourselves with your election manifesto. Many parts of your election manifesto are similar to Rakhmonov's manifesto. Will you kindly tell us what are you going to do if you fail to become president? Are you going to leave politics or will you take part in the process of Tajikistan's development?

[Abdullojonov] First of all I would like to explain why there are similarities in our election manifestos. Everyone who wants to serve as the head of state obviously has some good intentions and hopes. As Emomali Rakhmonov, I would like to serve my people with good intentions and hopes. As to the second part of the question, what will happen if I fail to become president? Well, it is not a disaster, that is life and it is up to the people to resolve this question. Of course I am going to serve my people in the future. I am a Tajik and the son of this land. I am not going anywhere and I have no intention of doing that.

[Moderator] Here is a question from Shermatov, a resident of Kofarnihonskiy Rayon. What is your stance in relation to religion?

[Abdullojonov] First of all, I respect and confess the noble religion of Islam. However, I think that religion ought to be a private matter for individuals and it should be separate from the state.

[Moderator] Here is a question from Amirsho Nematov, a teacher. Whom of the present politicians of Tajikistan do you respect?

[Abdullojonov] Of course, there are many politicians in Tajikistan. I am confident that there would be more candidates—not only from Khatlon and Leninabad Oblasts but also from Gissar, Karategin Pamir, and Kulyab areas—for the presidency if the law on election of the president is democratic. We have many politicians and it is up to the people to respect them.

[Moderator] Here is another question from Hafizova, a resident of the city of Dushanbe. There are many rumors spreading in the city alleging that all of the opposition's leaders will return to Dushanbe and you will listen to their instructions if you become president. Are these rumors true?

[Abdullojonov] How can I explain to you. Of course this is not true. How can the head of state act against his own people? These rumors are spread by those people who are trying to blacken Abdullojonov's name. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Here is another question from Rajabov Islom, a resident of Khovalingskiy Rayon, Khatlon Oblast. Esteemed Abdumalik Abdullojonov, you were unanimously elected the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the republic at the 16th session of the Supreme Council in the town of Khujand. Why did you resign from this post at a difficult period of time for the republic?

[Abdullojonov] First of all I did not resign myself. Second, if the leaders are not agreed on some principal matters at such a high political level, that means that one of them has to leave. That is why I did not want to fight for the position and left the government.

[Indistinct question in Russian]

[Abdullojonov, in Russian] I was asked this question several times. But honestly speaking I do not remember where. [Words indistinct] I do not support the government as well as the opposition. I work for the sake of the people and for the people.

[Moderator] Here is a question from Muhiddin Olimpur, a resident of Dushanbe on state languages in Tajikistan. The caller refers to the statement you made in your earlier presidential campaign speech on the need for both Russian and Uzbek languages to be declared as state languages in Tajikistan.

[Abdullojonov] To my mind, one was not afraid of this suggestion. First of all, it is good to know many languages. Second, it does not mean that our Tajik language will not be developed if we declare Russian and Uzbek languages as the state languages in Tajikistan. Of course we Tajiks love our country and language, but it will not be bad to know other languages. Third, there is a Russian and Uzbek speaking population among us. Many good experts are leaving our republic, and by declaring Russian and Uzbek languages I would somehow like to stop this process. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Here is another question from Rajabali Rahmonov, a resident of Muminabadskiy rayon. Dear Abdumalik Abdullojonov, you have decided to run for the post of president of the Republic of Tajikistan. This is your private matter. However, we can not understand one thing: Why are you holding your election campaign meetings only in Leninabad oblast? Why do you not want to meet people from Khatlon oblast, especially the people of the former Kulyab oblast? How can you explain your stance and behavior in relation to the people of Kulyab area?

[Abdullojonov] First of all I had a number of meetings in the southern rayons and I will definitely visit Khatlon oblast soon as part of my presidential campaign. Secondly, the people of Kulyab oblast themselves know how good is my stance in relation to them. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Here is another question. Dear Abdullojonov, in your election manifesto you mentioned that you are going to cooperate and have equal relations with all parties. The people of the republic know that the Islamic Rebirth Party brought the republic to the fratricidal war, and if you are going to cooperate with such parties, in particular with the Islamic Rebirth Party, do not you think that there will be a threat of another upsurge in civil war in the republic? This is a question of Ahmadov, a student from the Tajik State University.

[Abdullojonov] Dear Ahmadov, first of all you would better to learn my election manifesto. My election manifesto says that we are going to construct a democratic and law-based government. One of the principals of democracy is that all parties could function freely. The head of state has to be able to cooperate with them. But my election manifesto does not say anything about the Islamic Rebirth Party and other parties which are the reasons for disturbances in the republic. The law enforcement bodies of the republic [passage indistinct]

[Moderator] Here is another question. There are rumors that you are accusing Emomali Rakhmonov of regionalism. But perhaps you know that the people of Kulyab from where Emomali Rakhmonov came from supported Rahmon Nabiyev, at the last presidential elections. The Kulyabis came to stage demonstrations to support Rahmonov Nabiyev, Safarali Kenjayev and Nurullo Huvaydulloyev, who are not from Kulyab. These days also the head of state by his actions is proving his affection to the noble people of Leninabad. Do you think it is fare after

all this to accuse Kulyabis of regionalism? This question is from Fozil Saidov, a resident of the city of Dushanbe.

[Abdullojonov] Dear Saidov, I have got a question for you. Where did you hear these rumors? I would be grateful if you get in touch with me and tell me about these rumors' sources. I have never accused Emomali Rakhmonov of regionalism in my speeches. [sentence indistinct]

[Moderator] Here is another question relating to Emomali Rakhmonov's personality. You are always speaking on behalf of the Russian and Uzbek governments. However, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and Islam Abdughaniyevch Karimov expressed their support for Emomali Sharipovich Rakhmonov. Whom do you rely on in these countries?

[Abdullojonov] This is not true. I have never said in my speeches that esteemed Boris Yeltsin and Islam Abdughaniyevch do support me. I am a politician [words indistinct]. Several times I have mentioned and I am going to repeat that we have to rely of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Uzbekistan and other developed countries. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Here is a question from Jabborov, a serviceman of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The question is in Russian: According to rumors, you have big money and you have great influence in Russia and abroad. Why do not you render assistance to your people in such a difficult time?

[Abdullojonov] Dear Jabborov, I have got a question to you. Did you count my money? [words indistinct]. I do not have any such money stacked in foreign banks. But if someone had deposited such money in my name in a bank abroad, then I would spend this money on my people.

[Monitor] Here is a question from Dilbar Safarova, a resident of the city of Dushanbe. There are rumors that if you win the presidential elections there would be a war. Is it true? And here is a similar question in Russian: Dear Abdumalik Abdulloyevich, Emomali Rakhmonov in his speeches on 26, 27, and 30 October pointed out that for all no matter what he will never allow you to achieve a victory. [words indistinct]

[Abdullojonov in Russian] These rumors are groundless. I do not know if anybody is going to fight. But I am not going to fight with anybody. [sentence indistinct] As to Rakhmonov's words that he does not consider this a possibility, I want to say that I have not heard this. I am confident that Rakhmonov could never say these words. First of all, I enjoy a good working relationship with Rakhmonov and we met last Sunday. Rakhmonov would never say such things. This is a job of the circles which want a confrontation between Rakhmonov and me.

[Passage indistinct]

[Abdullojonov in Russian] I shall try my best to do everything in my power to bring economic recovery. I have fully supported and I do support the efforts of the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other international organizations. [passage indistinct]

National Front Leader on Presidential Elections

MK0111141094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 3

[Interview with Safarali Kendzhayev, "Former Tajikistan Supreme Soviet chairman for two terms, chairman of the republic's National Security Committee, and chairman of the Tajikistan People's Front," by Sergey Kruglov in the "Tajikistan" column: "Safarali Kendzhayev is Ready To Come Back. He Wants Law To Reign Supreme in the Republic." Titles as published,—place, date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Kruglov] Could you please say what your attitude is to the upcoming first nationwide presidential elections in the Republic of Tajikistan?

[Kendzhayev] The 20th session of the republic's Supreme Soviet adopted the current Law on Elections. It was illegal and anti-democratic. Its anti-democratic nature manifests itself in that the right to nominate a presidential candidate was granted for the most part to state structures as represented by the oblast soviets, and also soviets of rayons under republican jurisdiction, of which there are 14, and which nominate one candidate only. This right was also extended to only two public organizations: the republic trade unions and the Youth Union. The absence of any parties, except the Communist Party, complicates the situation even more, from the point of view of the democratic process. The invitation for the opposition to contest the elections is only outwardly democratic. Judge for yourself: parties are banned; it is hard to believe that all 14 rayons should have nominated just one opposition candidate; this is to say nothing about Leninabad and Khatlon Oblast (former Kulyab and Kurgan-Tyube Oblasts). In my opinion, there is no reason to fear political competition from the opposition. It has seriously discredited itself, and in the near future will not be playing any serious role in the republic's political life. That the opposition is backed by arms, mercenaries, and foreign money is well known to everybody in Tajikistan.

The illegality of this law—may the reader forgive me this tautology—consists in that a number of its provisions contradict the norms of the current Constitution. Such laws may enter into force only after corresponding changes are introduced into the Constitution. These changes are approved by a necessary two-thirds majority vote. In this instance, however, these changes failed to get the requisite two-thirds at the corresponding Supreme Soviet session, and were passed by a simple majority.

[Kruglov] Even so, there are two candidates contesting the elections.

[Kendzhayev] Sure, although the second candidate—Abdumalik Abdulladzhonov—has all the odds against him. The authorities have done everything to bar any alternative candidates. For instance, the rayons were not allowed to nominate candidates until 4 October (!): two days before registration was due to end. In other words, a candidate put forward at such a session was supposed to raise the 133,000 signatures required for the registration within these two days. It is understandable therefore why the rayons simply refused to nominate owing to the senselessness of such an undertaking.

[Kruglov] How would you comment on emerging reports alleging that election results could possibly be rigged by the authorities?

[Kendzhayev] I am absolutely certain that unless the presence of independent observers at these elections is ensured, ballot rigging is inevitable. This certitude is based on analysis of the situation: All matters pertaining to the organization of the election process are in the hands of just one candidate, namely Emomali Rakhmonov. The other side even has no official information as to where the ballot papers are being printed, in what numbers, and so forth.

A very sensitive issue is the voting by people who for some reason or other have found themselves outside the republic. According to opposition estimates, approximately 800,000 people have become refugees, but no one has yet seen these lists. It would be logical to rely on government data saying that there are approximately 300,000 people outside Tajikistan at present. No special polling stations have been created for them. Even if you come to the only such station, in Moscow, chances are there will be no voting lists.

The only option whereby objective results are possible is the presence of a neutral side at each polling station, and oversight of each ballot box, each ballot paper. Unfortunately, virtually nothing has been done in this respect. I have the impression that everybody has taken a wait and see attitude, having obviously prepared various contingency options depending on a particular outcome.

[Kruglov] And what would you say about the possible outcome of the elections?

[Kendzhayev] I will be absolutely honest and say that in the event that a really democratic voting procedure is ensured, the real favorite for the presidential chair is Abdulladzhonov. I do not think that I will reveal anything new about the possible distribution of votes by region: in Leninabad Oblast, Karategin, Gissar Valley, Badakhshan, and Dushanbe the majority will support Abdulladzhonov. I rate Abdulladzhonov's chances at approximately 80 percent.

[Kruglov] Are you going to return to big-time politics in the republic?

[Kendzhayev] I am ready to return to politics. I am ready to work with any team, if the basic norms of democracy, and freedom of speech, of the press, and expression of will are observed, and if political life proceeds within the law.

Opposition Against Holding Presidential Elections

LD0111130294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The opposition is still against holding presidential elections in Tajikistan, nor will it recognize their outcome, said First Deputy Chairman of Tajikistan's Islamic Revival Movement Akbar Turanjoda.

In his opinion, there is no freedom of expression in the republic, many media organizations have been banned, political dissenters are in jail, and about a million Tajiks have fled abroad because of the armed conflict in the republic.

Uzbekistan

Trilateral Accord Signed on Strengthening Borders

LD0211115194 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 2 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A trilateral Tajik-Uzbek-Russian agreement on further strengthening of the southern borders of the Commonwealth states has been signed in Tashkent.

General Andrey Nikolayev, commander of the Russian Border Troops, signed the agreement on behalf of the Russian Federation. According to this agreement the border along the Pyanj and Amu Darya rivers will be strengthened not only by the border guard contingent and ground military weapons but also by the river navy ships and cutters.

The strengthening of the southern borders of the CIS states will promote a decrease in border provocations and (?prevent) the smuggling of narcotics and weapons. This is an Ostankino TV report, which was broadcast yesterday.

Robbed Russia-Bound Trains To Be Diverted

MM0111115094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Nov 94 p 4

[Report by Irina Gribova under the "Road" rubric: "Thousand Kilometers of Nightmare. Uzbek Rail Road Chiefs Insist on Altering Route"]

[FBIS Translated Text] There were 805 armed raids on trains between Aryk and Yelets on the Western Kazakhstan railroad during the first nine months of 1994. Another 86 occurred in the last two weeks in September. In the course of the year, 354 conductors voluntarily quit

their jobs, clearly fearing for their lives. This fear has a cause. Recently, the chief of one of the trains running between there and Moscow, which was raided by robbers at Tyura-Tam station, was brutally beaten. The Uzbek militia refuse to accompany trains. This is obvious because their Kazakh counterparts not only give no help to their neighbors in a desperate situation, they often provoke all sorts of incidents.

Speaking in a meeting with Russian journalists, Farukh Dadakhodzhayev, head of passenger train repair shop No. 2 of the national "Uzbekistontemuriuli" railroad company, which carries 80 percent of all passengers in Central Asia, said that the Uzbek railroad chiefs raised with their Kazakhstan counterparts the question of altering the existing Russia-bound train route. The Uzbek side proposes that trains should run via Chimkent, Akmolinsk, and on via Karaganda to Orenburg—that is to say, as Mr. Dadakhodzhayev specially stressed, across territory with a Russian-speaking population. Although this route will be longer than the present one, and yet another train has to be added to cope with the passenger flow, Uzbekistan has to insist on its proposal. Economics is economics, Mr. Dadakhodzhayev said, but life is more precious.

Government Commission Considers Energy Waste

LD0111162294 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 29 Oct 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Natural gas is irreplaceable wealth. On 28 October a meeting of the commission on saving fuel and energy resources was held under the chairmanship of the first deputy prime-minister of the republic, Ismail Djurabekov. Taking part in it were the deputies of local administration heads of the regions and Tashkent, the heads of ministries, departments, concerns and associations.

Questions of the utilization of gas, fuel used for boilers and furnaces, and heat and electric energy at the enterprises of Andizhan, Namangan, and Ferghana regions were examined.

The study of conditions in this sphere revealed quite a few shortcomings which lead to a substantial loss of gas. A selective check of the enterprises and organizations of these regions showed that owing to elementary bad management, more than 106 million cubic meters of gas are lost annually. Heating is used with virtually no control over it.

Matters are extremely bad as regards metering natural gas consumption, especially in the municipal sector where meters are not supplied to more than eight percent and the population has not been given them at all. The

situation has been aggravated by the fact that the supply of meters for heat consumption, for which a considerable quantity of gas is used, does not exceed one percent.

Measures for introducing order and improving the condition of equipment which uses heat and gas and heating networks have not been taken due to the connivance of top workers in a number of ministries, departments and organizations.

More than five percent of gas is lost irretrievably owing to the violation of the rules for gas equipment operation and the unsatisfactory condition of the heating networks in Andizhan region. The same takes place at Altikkul knitwear factory, the Andizhan soft drinks enterprise, the Khodzhaabad cannery, the Elektrodvigatel [electric engine] factory and other enterprises.

Incidents of consumers connecting up to the gas networks without authorization have been uncovered and the squandering of fuel and energy resources is still permitted at a number of enterprises in Ferghana Region.

An average of up to eight percent of gas is lost at enterprises in Namangan Region and some employers do not pay for the use of gas.

Violation of the regimes for burning fuel used for boilers and furnaces lead to the intensive discharge of toxic substances into the atmosphere which worsens the ecological situation in the region.

The commission pointed out that the ministries, departments, and organizations of the republic and local administrations of Andizhan, Namangan, and Ferghana regions have not taken measures to save fuel and energy resources. The personal responsibility of the leaders and officials who allowed violations in the use of fuel and energy resources and who did not fulfill decisions taken earlier was considered. The attention of the heads of ministries, departments, institutions, and local administration bodies has been drawn to the necessity of eliminating shortcomings and organizing explanatory work for the economical use of fuel and energy resources. Specific tasks were set them.

The issue of distributing petrol and diesel fuel for 1995 was also considered at the meeting of the commission. The attention of the heads of ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations has been drawn to the necessity of toughening control over the use of petroleum products.

Deputy prime-ministers Yu. Paygin, Mirabror Usmanov, Kayim Haqqulov and R. Yunusov took part in the meeting of the commission.

Georgia

Butrus-Ghali Visits Area, Makes Statements

On Observers, Russian Peacemakers

LD0111182094 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1711
GMT 1 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[*FBIS* Transcribed Text] Tbilisi November 1 *TASS*—United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, currently in the area, praised the efficient interaction of U.N. military observers and Russian peace-makers in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone at a meeting with Georgian Prime Minister Otar Patsatsia here today.

He said this is the first time the United Nations passes the peace-making mandate to another side. Well-informed sources from the Shevardnadze circle report, that Monday's meeting of Butrus-Ghali and Eduard Shevardnadze discussed a possibility of passing over the peace-making mandate to Russia in settlement of the Armenian-Azeri conflict.

Today the sides focused on boosted U.N. assistance to Georgia. The Georgian prime minister said they have received only 14 U.S. million dollars worth of international assistance as against the planned 70 millions. The secretary-general noted that the United Nations is living through a financial crisis, and donor states are allocating only 25-30 per cent of the planned finances for these purposes.

The premier reported an acute economic crisis and said the republican black oil stock is estimated at 10,000 as compared to the necessary 300,000, while Georgian electric resources satisfy only 40 per cent of its needs.

Butrus-Ghali offered Patsatsiya to submit a detailed report on Georgian social and economic situation to the United Nations.

Addresses Georgian Parliament

LD0211091094 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 0705
GMT 2 Nov 94

[By *ITAR-TASS* correspondent Boris Sintnikov]

[*FBIS* Transcribed Text] United Nations November 2 *TASS*—The U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali has called on Georgia to make its contribution to the activities of the international community despite hardships caused by the war and the economic crisis. Ghali addressed a special session of the Georgian parliament on Tuesday [1 November].

Ghali pointed out that Georgia is the embodiment of many problems faced by the world at the present stage of the world history. No one knows better than in Georgia what the end of the cold war means, Ghali said. The people in Georgia are aware of the horrible cost of the

war. Over 300,000 resettled people have appeared, Ghali pointed out in his address circulated at the U.N. headquarters.

Ghali went on to say that the United Nations ensured its presence in Georgia in order to help it overcome this difficult moment in its history. On August 24, 1993 the U.N. Security Council established a mission of observers to Georgia. A total of 120 observers have been monitoring the implementation of an agreement on a ceasefire and the disengagement of warring sides. "I hope that the achievement of lasting peace will reward efforts made by the Georgian government and the international community," Ghali said. He warned that the transition from centralized planning to the market economy is never accomplished without social detriment. People are hit hard by inflation and unemployment, the two diseases typical of transitional economies, Ghali said, however, he voiced confidence that the courage, bright minds and industriousness of the Georgian people assisted by the world community will enable them to overcome this difficult period. Ghali reminded of Georgia's pledge not to remain a passive observer of international events, but take its share of the EC responsibility and make its contribution to the achievement of EC goals, which was expressed by the Georgian foreign minister at the 49th session of the U.N. General Assembly. Ghali promised that the United Nations would give its support to Georgia to enable it to take a worthy place in the world community.

Says Shevardnadze, Ardzinba To Meet

LD0211113694 Tbilisi *IPRINDA in Russian* 1000 GMT
2 Nov 94

[*FBIS* Translated Text] Tbilisi [No date as received] (*IPRINDA*)—UN Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali and Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze gave a news conference today. Shevardnadze highly valued the importance for Georgia and the entire Caucasus region of Butrus-Ghali's visit. The head of state said that the United Nations has adopted 10 resolutions concerning the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict and stressed that the United Nations and Russia are interested in a peaceful, political settlement of the conflict. In Shevardnadze's opinion the United Nations should be more active and should make better use of its potential.

For his part, Butrus-Ghali thanked Shevardnadze for his hospitality and promised that the United Nations will always be a guarantor of Georgia's independence and territorial integrity. He said that his personal representative on the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict settlement, Edouard Brunner, will resume talks on the Abkhaz problem in Geneva 14 November.

Butrus-Ghali also said that, on his own initiative, a meeting will be held at the beginning of December between Eduard Shevardnadze and [Abkhaz leader] Vladislav Ardzinba, with Russia's participation. Butrus-Ghali disagreed with the opinion that the United

Nations operates inefficiently. He reminded those present at the news conference that positive changes have been achieved in Macedonia, Cambodia, and elsewhere and that 70,000 blue helmets are involved in 17 operations [around the world].

Russian Commander on 'Serious' Situation in Gali

LD0111183194 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 1510 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Major General Vasilii Yakushev, commander of the Russian peacekeeping forces in the Abkhaz conflict zone, arrived in Zugdidi yesterday at the request of the administrative, political, and military leadership of the Zugdidi region.

A meeting was held to discuss widespread incidents involving violation by the Abkhaz side of the rights of the Georgian population in Gali Rayon. Also discussed at the meeting were the separatists' actions aimed at wrecking the peaceful settlement of the conflict and delaying the return of Georgian refugees to their homes.

Maj. Gen. Yakushev admitted that the Georgian representatives were correct and that the incidents they brought up had indeed taken place. He confirmed that the operational situation in Gali Rayon is extremely serious and that there have been incidents involving unlawful treatment of inhabitants of non-Abkhaz nationality.

Shevardnadze Interviewed on Current Topics

LD3110120994 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0639 GMT 31 Oct 94

[Regular weekly studio interview with State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze by Nato Oniani—live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Oniani] Good morning, we are presenting a radio interview with the chairman of the Georgian parliament and head of state, Eduard Shevardnadze. Batono Eduard, in one of your speeches last week you said: Georgia's principal problems are Abkhazia and Samachablo [South Ossetia] but I hope we will overcome these and still the most acute problems are economic problems and we have started towards the heights that are difficult to surmount. If we have a look at the recent events, we actually can see certain positive trends. Against this background, it does not seem normal to observe bankruptcies of companies and private banks that occur every week. It seems suspicious that all this happens simultaneously. There are endless rumors that the government is involved in this process. In addition, the controlling bodies virtually do nothing.

Do you think this process has been controlled or is this just a way to make money, and is it a coincidence that many banks went bankrupt simultaneously?

[Shevardnadze] Thank you and welcome. I will say a few words about the economic aspects of our life and further

on I may have an opportunity to make a detailed analysis of the economy, finances, [words indistinct]

The consideration and approval of the republic's budget for the fourth quarter by the parliament was an important event which determined the economic situation in Georgia at the end of October. The main thing is that this budget has been drafted without a deficit, although that would be rather conventional. The approval of the budget can be regarded as a step forward, along with the preparation of appropriate documents for the allocation of a loan by the Georgian mission of the World Bank and the IMF mission's visit to Georgia aimed to coordinate measures on implementing the program of stabilization and to prepare for the meeting of the donor countries on 21 November.

A Georgian delegation has been invited to this meeting. The meeting must be productive for us, I mean in terms of experimental funding and other ways of aid.

There have been some other events which can be observed as figures, facts, and trends. Indeed, I am not able to speak of all this today and I do not think it is necessary but we will consider this gradually in the future.

For instance, I regard the substantial increase in tax revenues as a very significant fact. The tax revenue has already reached the figure of 10.5 trillion coupons exceeding the planned index by 280 billions coupons and the tax revenue received in the first six months of the year by 5.5 trillion coupons. This can by no means save the economy but this demonstrates that some people have acquired certain sources of income and the systems created recently, I mean tax inspectorate and so on, more or less are doing their job.

Incomes from added value tax and excise also increased during the third quarter and this fact is very important and it shows the trends for stirring up the economy. The income from the value added tax has doubled and the income from excise has increased three-fold.

[Here follows 14-minute interruption in reception]

For instance, I do not think that an almost solemn declaration about 1,000 people moving there can be taken seriously. The inability or unwillingness of the delegations, whose mistakes I have just mentioned, to take the necessary stand can be blamed for this. They should have considered other possibilities and other conditions. So far, only one side has been dictating conditions at the negotiations. And if it goes on like that, the negotiations will lose their significance and validity.

The absence of the military from the Sochi talks is a topic widely discussed here today. When I mention this to the military, they say diplomats should tackle the issues there and so on. I am afraid this issue has become a little confusing and we have to clear out everything and make the negotiations look like negotiations. If this goes on like that and we move at the present pace, effects will

be grave and the peacekeeping process will be wrecked. God forbid, but [words indistinct]

Indeed, I will mention all this to the UN Secretary General and other representatives who are in touch with me.

As far as Mr. Butrus Butrus Ghali's visit to Georgia is concerned, it is an important occasion. The fact itself is important, I reckon. The secretary general has played a great part in drafting and passing the 10 resolutions, that, in fact, have created a legal basis for the settlement of the conflict. We should always bear this in mind. The secretary general is an active supporter of Georgia's territorial unity and integrity. He has repeatedly pointed out this in his speeches and he has no second thought about this.

In addition, not to mention anything else, he is one of the most outstanding international figures of the present times and his visit is, naturally, both honorable and hopeful for Georgia.

[Oniani] Batono Eduard, you visited Ajara last week and said there that Ajara avoided what had happened in many other regions including Tbilisi; we destroyed what could be destroyed and we ruined what belongs to our children. It seems significant that you said this in Batumi on the fourth anniversary of the 28 October elections. The process of destruction has stopped and, fortunately, Ajara is no longer an exception. Definitely positive processes are being observed in Kutaisi and Tbilisi and stability seems to be noticeable in all areas of Georgia.

[Shevardnadze] I am still strongly affected by what I saw, and I said this back there and on my return from Batumi. I will not elaborate upon this because I have already said that a trend of implementing Ajara's, Batumi's historic mission has become evident. The historic mission of this ancient Georgian province is to gradually acquire the function of a leading cultural, scientific, and economic region of Georgia. We all have to back this trend and we all have to back the leaders, including Mr Aslan Abashidze [chairman of the Ajarian Supreme Council], who are the initiators and organizers of a great deed.

[Oniani] Last Saturday, Temur Zhorzholiani, chairman of the Conservative-Monarchist Party, gave up a hunger-strike staged in the middle of the parliament building. What would be your appraisal of this sort of action from the point of view of a representative of the authorities?

[Shevardnadze] Everyone knows my attitude toward this sort of event. Everyone has, naturally, the right both to eat and to be hungry. As a matter of fact, Georgia has paid too high a price for hunger-strikes, rally mentality, if you will, the range of actions taken in Georgia, street psychology, I would say, the creation of sources of instability and the like. These costs cannot be reimbursed.

We paid a high price for provincial fascism and you all are well aware of the genesis of that provincial fascism. It

resulted in lots of blood and lots of casualties. Even now, certain forces are trying to impose this way of thinking upon us. [passage omitted] Their logic is this: Having failed to get a victory in the parliament, why don't we try the streets?

I want everyone to hear this: neither will you achieve a victory in the street. I am addressing those who cannot give up a habit of acting in the streets. [passage omitted].

Georgian citizens are no longer what they used to be. That time has apparently gone. We have passed that stage and the people have changed. Everyone should hear this: The people support any manifestation of stability and normal life, however slight it might be. They will support those who gradually but selflessly and devotedly have been fighting and will keep fighting for the country's stability. Everyone should understand that this cannot be achieved in the streets. [passage omitted]

[Oniani] Two high-ranking officials, a deputy interior minister and the chairman of the customs department, quit last week. This seems to have become a trend. Almost every week we see someone give up his post.

[Shevardnadze] As far as these administrative changes are concerned, I worry about them. In one of my interviews, I pointed out as one of my weakest points the fact that after having trusted a person, I find it difficult to give up this trust, even if there are grounds for this. I find it difficult to admit that I was wrong regarding this person and showed weakness. However, I would like to add that everyone, including the head of state, should subdue his own feelings. What was said at the Tbilisi meeting on 15 October, and the public hopefully understood it, was a definite platform for further actions rather than a threat. It was a course for the just stringency required by the situation.

This is the demand of the people and the authorities serve the people. This is not a communist slogan. Some will say that Shevardnadze is speaking like a communist leader. This is the case in every normal democratic country. The authorities must serve the people and should use all forms and means relevant to the rules of democratic thinking and democratic community.

Interests of the citizens and the country are higher than those of any official even if the head of state's personal attitude towards him is friendly and good.

We must be guided only by justice and interests of the people. We will further have to take strong decisions provided these are required by the country's and people's interests.

[Oniani] How would you assess a statement made by Giorgi Chanturia, leader of the National-Democratic Party, at a news conference last week? He said, in particular, that the director of the security service, Igor Giorgadze, had had tapping devices installed at the party's headquarters.

[Shevardnadze] To tell the truth, I was shocked to my heart. This is not just a personal statement. I can say this is a very strong political statement and it is impossible not to be concerned about it. However, it is hardly believable, hardly imaginable for me. Can you imagine that a thing like this happens in our times. If the statement contains even a little bit of truth, a strict decision should be taken.

I intend to sign an order today instructing the Prosecutor's Office to make full inquiries and report to the public. Moreover, the Collegium of the Security Service has submitted a similar request to the Prosecutor's Office. We all, hopefully including Mr. Giorgi Chanturia and the Security Service, I, as the head of state, and the public do want to know the truth.

[Oniani] The state representative of the Kvemo Kartli region was appointed yesterday. In fact, this means that a new region has been set up. You had a meeting with representatives of Kvemo Kartli last week. How important and essential do you think this was taking into consideration the current situation in Georgia?

[Shevardnadze] It was essential. Even some of my associates have argued over the necessity of this administrative unit. I believe that this is really necessary. This is necessary first of all for establishing order in this region and strengthening the tendencies that have emerged recently. This is necessary because this region is of vital significance in every respect, economically and politically, for the whole Georgia. It is very important to say that I have had contacts with the ethnic Georgian population of the region. Representatives of ethnic Azeri population from the region have also visited me. I have had contacts with individual ethnic Greek, Armenian and other inhabitants of the region and I have to say that this move has been welcomed by all, by Georgians, by Azeris and all those I mentioned.

There will certainly be exceptions but the general assessment was positive. This region has enormous prospects and since the central administration cannot cope with all rayons and regions, we have been losing a lot. Good prospects are envisaged for the region in the economy, culture and science.

The role of Rustavi in the formation of Georgian statehood has acquired a fresh aspect. Rustavi will play a new part in this along with Marneuli, Bolnisi, Tsalka, Gardabani, Dmanisi, and other regions. On the other hand, Rustavi's role, like the role of Batumi, Kutaisi, to say nothing of the capital, will be especially important in the formation of the state of Georgia. And, as I have said, establishing order is the first and foremost task. Hence, the candidature of the representative.

The young man, I mean Mr. Levan Mamaladze, has proved his devotion, honesty and courage. In addition, he is a capable and talented administrator. I believe that his appointment was not accidental. [passage omitted]

When we speak about the revival of a historic mission, we mean that this should be done by the whole Georgia, all together, Georgians, Armenians, Greeks, Russians— whoever lives in the region. You know that this area hosts a great variety of ethnic representation. All of them are interested in the task.

I know that the Armenian population of the region also took part in yesterday's festivities. There were Greeks, Russians, and others, too but the active participation of the ethnic Armenian population was remarkable. The same happens on Armenian holidays. Georgians are always with them and they celebrate the occasions together. So, yesterday's act apart from the direct goal had a symbolic significance and the region will gain its honorable place in the formation of the Georgian statehood, the process of which has already started.

Estonia

Netherlands Signs Mutual Understanding Memo

LD0111152494 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in
Estonian 1700 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Representatives of Estonia and Holland today signed a memorandum on mutual understanding for 1995. One part of the memorandum concerns agriculture; the other sea transport, including the building and using of the Muuga port. The meeting also discussed possibilities for economic cooperation between Estonia and Holland and Dutch assistance for implementing training and development programs.

Envoy Concerned Over Treaty Ratification Delay

WS0211121594 Tallinn BNS in English 1639 GMT 1
Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 01, BNS—The Russian Ambassador to Estonia, Alexander Trofimov, expressed concern over what he called Estonia's not being in a hurry to ratify the treaties on troop withdrawal and social guarantees for retired Russian military, signed by the two countries' presidents on July 26.

"Documents must be dealt with according to rules, and the sooner this is done the better. This would show good will and trust," the ambassador said in an interview with Estonia's SAKALA newspaper. Trofimov said that it seemed to him that namely lack of trust was the main reason behind the present humble state of relations between the two neighbors.

He said that Russia had completed its pre-ratification procedures for the treaties within a few days, whereas Estonia was delaying to follow suit. "Russia cannot set out to ratify (the treaties) earlier than Estonia," the ambassador said.

The Russian diplomat said his country in withdrawing its army troops from Estonia had mainly fulfilled its obligations. "Also the list of the military pensioners has been handed to Estonia. Measures have been taken to remove all the remaining complications as quickly as possible," he said.

Trofimov disagreed with claims that Russia by imposing higher dues on imports from Estonia was discriminating against that Baltic country. He said the same customs regulations as were effective on trade with Estonia applied to a few dozen other countries as well. "Our two countries simply don't have as yet a most favored trade status with each other. I believe that a time will come for this also," Trofimov said.

Russian Military Property Handover Examined

MM0211102194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in
Russian 2 Nov 94 First Edition p 1

[Report from roundup of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA and ITAR-TASS reports: "Estonia Had No Concerns...."]

[FBIS Translated Text] The question of the transfer of former Russian military installations to the Estonian Defense Ministry and also to local municipalities was examined at yesterday's session of the republic's government.

Overall this includes several thousand structures and installations, including the entire port city of Paldiski, several large airfields, the Minnaya harbor in Tallinn, and other real estate. Unless specific owners and a specific use are found for this property, very soon it will simply become worthless.

Russian-Estonian Treaties Returned for Clarification

LD0111174594 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in
Estonian 1500 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The government's session today also discussed expert opinion on the Estonian-Russian treaties. Mati Kirotar went along to the news conference held after their session.

[Kirotar] It was the Justice Ministry that provided the legal expert opinion on both the treaty on the Russian troop withdrawal from Estonia, and the agreement on social protection for Russian retired servicemen and their families, which were concluded in Moscow. Experts from outside the ministry also took part in formulating the opinion. The expert commission also considered written views received from emigre Estonian specialists. In the course of the work a meeting with Foreign Minister Juri Luik was also held. The legal expert opinion on the Estonian-Russian treaties reached the desk of the government leader, Mart Laar, last week.

In the course of the discussion today, while considering the expert opinion, the government concluded that the Justice Ministry will have to clarify some positions presented in their expert opinion. So, the government has not as yet provided its final assessment of the Estonian-Russian treaties today, on the basis of the expert opinion provided.

But what are the positions that require further clarification? Here is Prime Minister Mart Laar.

[Begin Laar recording] The Justice Ministry has been asked to mainly clarify the position on the legal argument for the ratification of the troop withdrawal treaty, because the treaty contains a clause that says that the treaty has already run its course. At the same time, it also contains a requirement that it must be ratified so that this forms a kind of legal conundrum and the government wants to know which of these two runs supreme.

Another thing is for the Justice Ministry to look through all the government decrees and laws of the Republic of Estonia. Should they find a specific law or decree that must be amended if the treaties are [word indistinct] ratified, the government considers it necessary to send the amendments to the Riigikogu, together with the

treaty, so that the Riigikogu when making its decision would already be aware of what their decision may lead to. The government will evidently make a decision as a matter of principle, prior to the Justice Ministry's final verdict or preparations for it being completed, because I fear that this may still take time. [end recording]

[Kirotar] The appendix to the expert opinion also shows those legal contradictions that may occur when Estonia ratifies the treaties, as well as what the Riigikogu's possibilities are as such when it comes to ratification of international agreements. However, what is it then, with the Estonian-Russian treaties, that the government is left to decide?

[Begin Laar recording] Several clauses evidently deal with matters that can be clarified and conducted through diplomatic channels. Some of the comments are negligible and some more substantial, and government members will be able to make their own decision as a matter of principle at the same time, as to whether the spirit of the mandate given to the talks delegation and Mr. Luik, whether these are reflected in the treaties. This will serve as the basis for the government's conclusion. In order to resolve the legal problems, the justice chancellor will also evidently have to be involved. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Laar: No Ultimatum Set on Cabinet Participation

WS0211121494 Tallinn BNS in English 1639 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 01, BNS—Mart Laar, the caretaker prime minister and chairman of the Pro Patria party, said his party had issued no ultimatums regarding the new Cabinet setup during talks on the formation of the country's new government.

Laar, who failed a parliamentary confidence vote on Sept. 26 and is to hand over to new Prime Minister Andres Tarand soon, in his latest remarks indicated that Pro Patria could adopt a more flexible stance on participation in the new government.

The remarks were in contrast with earlier statements by the party's parliament group who ruled out the possibility of Pro Patria entering a coalition with its renegade members now making up the Rightist parliament faction.

Laar said that the parliament by voting 63-1 in favor of giving Tarand the powers to form a new government had issued a clear mandate to the new premier and that it now depended on Tarand himself what parties to take into his Cabinet.

But the acting premier didn't rule out that both the Pro Patria as well as the ex-Pro Patria Rightists could remain outside the new Cabinet.

Laar said there was no obligation for Tarand, environment minister in Laar's outgoing Pro Patria-dominated government, to take Pro Patria into his new Cabinet.

Tarand comes from the parliament's Moderate faction, but is not member of any political party.

The Pro Patria parliament group has said it is opposed to accepting members from the Rightist faction into the new Cabinet. The Pro Patria faction leaders also said earlier that the party won't back down on its demand of keeping the three key ministerial posts of foreign affairs, economy and justice. The party could be ready to negotiate about the posts of the defense minister and energy minister, the MP's said.

The parliament approved Tarand's nomination as the country's new prime minister on Oct. 27. Tarand under the Constitution must present his Cabinet list to President Lennart Meri by Thursday.

Laar Holds News Conference on State of Republic

WS0211111194 Tallinn ETA in English 0750 GMT 2 Nov 94

[From 2 Nov EESTI SONUMID, p.1 ; "News Bulletin" No. 213/94]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yesterday's press conference was probably the last one for the outgoing Prime Minister Mart Laar, with the new Premier Andres Tarand finishing forming the cabinet.

Reviewing the work done by him and his ministers Laar gave his opinion that Estonia's economy is in order, the budget in the positive and there have not been any great shocks to the community.

Commenting the possible set-up of the new cabinet Laar did not exclude the possibility that the "Fatherland" would stay out of it. The final results of the present negotiations on the matter would be known soon when Tarand would disclose his plans in connection with the cabinet. But the chairman of the "Fatherland" party did not wish to call his party's demands an ultimatum.

The government had discussed the expert analysis of the Estonian-Russian agreements of July 26, carried out by the Justice Ministry. The analysis was returned to the ministry with a request for more details on some parts of the document, among them making up a list of the legal acts which needed changes according to the agreement on the social rights of the retired Russian military and their families. The cabinet is to discuss the agreements again at tomorrow's session.

The government gave its support to the draft law presented by Riigikogu [parliament] member Heiki Raudla on the amendments to the electoral law, to the draft law on citizenship and the one pronouncing dead the missing passengers of the sunken ferry ESTONIA.

The government did not approve draft laws by a Rural Union MP Kuno Raude on legal proceedings against the President, Chancellor of Justice and State Court members, motivating it that the Justice Ministry staff is at present working on the draft laws on this matter.

The idea to establish a technology park in Tabasalu was approved in principle, the Economy Ministry given the task to conclude the formalities of this project and discuss the offers by sponsors from United States, told to be near \$100 million.

The government allocated 2.6 million kroons to Tartu University for the reconstruction of the building for the humanitarian sciences' studies.

The government agreed with the new levels of energy cost which are to be covered from the state budget. The levels differ regionally.

450 persons were granted Estonian citizenship. The situation of the Kurdish refugees was discussed and Interior and Justice Ministries given orders on this problem. The government lifted sanctions against Haiti in accordance with a similar step of the United Nations.

Government Plans To Tighten Naturalization Rules

WS0211110994 Tallinn BNS in English 1815 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Nov 01, BNS—The government at its meeting on Tuesday [1 November] approved a draft legislation which would establish a twice longer minimum permanent residency period for people applying to become naturalized Estonian citizens.

The current citizenship law, which the country copied from its respective law from 1938, says applicants for citizenship must have lived in Estonia for two consecutive years and can obtain citizen's status one year after submitting the application. The new draft suggests replacing the 2 plus 1 formula with 5 plus 1 and would raise the total of years that one must live in Estonia before becoming a naturalized citizen from three to six.

The draft, drawn up by a Justice Ministry work group jointly with MP Mart Nutt, was handed to the parliament. The bill includes provisions linking it to the country's law on aliens, regulations for the citizenship status of children, as well as requirements for the command of the Estonian language, established by separate documents under the current legislation.

Prime Minister Mart Laar at a press conference after the government meeting said the bill was drawn up to meet contemporary European standards and because the current law, an amended version of the 1938 legislation, was outdated. Officials in the country's parliament have said legislators could begin discussing the bill as early as next week.

Detained Kurds Considered Illegal Border-Crossers

WS0211110894 Tallinn ETA in English 1911 GMT 1 Nov 94

["News Release"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There are 82 people at present in Estonia who state that they are Kurdish refugees and three persons who say they are Afghans, and who have all been detained because of illegal border crossing, deputy chancellor of Estonian Interior Ministry Juri Ruus told ETA.

Ruus said that at present talks were held with Russian Consulate to send them back to where they have come from to Estonia. In the nearest future Finnish and Swedish experts are to arrive in Estonia with whom possibilities of easing the regime of the refugees who are detained in Estonian prisons, in Maardu, Parnu and Harku, will be studied.

Estonia has been often criticised for treating badly the predominantly Kurdish refugees who intend to reach Finland or Sweden through Estonia. The refugees are kept in prisons for Estonia has no refugee camps for financial problems. Estonia has not joined the war refugee convention either.

Latvia

U.S. To Provide Aid for Baltic Peacekeeping Unit

LD0111162094 Riga Radio Riga Network in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States will provide assistance to Latvia in the immediate future to ensure its security. It has been decided to earmark \$10 million to set up a peacekeeping battalion. Experts on air traffic safety and export control will arrive in Latvia shortly and the FBI may help in fighting organized crime. This was said by Latvian Foreign Minister Valdis Birkavs at a news conference after talks with U.S. Under Secretary of State Lynn Davis.

If the drafting of an interstate agreement on the avoidance of double taxation is completed in the immediate future, then a visit by the Latvian foreign minister to the United States will be possible in mid-December.

Ulmanis, Latvian Envoy on Relations With Belarus

LD0111223994 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2200 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] State President Guntis Ulmanis was today visited by Yanis Lovniks, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Latvia to Belarus, for talks. The main theme of their talks was the agreements concluded between former Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs and Belarus, which has been awaiting ratification by the Saeima for nearly a year. The president and the ambassador also discussed the political and economic situation in Belarus, its international relations, and foreign business interests in the country.

Ambassador on Interstate Agreements

WS0211111094 Tallinn BNS in English 1815 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Nov 01, BNS—Latvian Ambassador to Belarus Janis Lovniks visited President

Guntis Ulmanis Tuesday [1 November] and voiced his concern over the delayed ratification of several Latvian-Belarusian agreements.

During the office of Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs, Latvia concluded at least six agreements with Belarus that have been waiting for a year to be ratified by the Latvian parliament.

Two of them, on frontier crossing and on legal assistance, are very significant, said Lovniks. They could help tackle problems of money transfers of individuals, customs issues and curb crime and illegal migration.

The "gaps" in Belarusian frontier allow Kurdish refugees and criminals to get into Latvia, the ambassador noted.

Ulmanis and Lovniks also touched on the Belarusian political and economic situation, its foreign political activities and interests of foreign business in this country.

Border Guard Officials Meet Russian Counterparts

WS0211101994 Riga LABRIT in Latvian 18 Oct 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] A meeting of Russian and Latvian Border Guard commanders took place in Pskov last week. Janis Adamsons, commander of the Latvian Border Guard brigade, told LABRIT upon his return that this was the first time the leadership of the Border Guard service of the Russian Federation met with any corresponding representative from a Baltic state.

According to Adamsons, both parties acknowledged the usefulness of cooperation between the border guard structures. In the future, an exchange of information will be organized in the field of searches, border protection, and border control. Aleksandr Kozevnikov, deputy commander in chief of the Russian Border Guard forces, also spoke about programs targeted against weapons and narcotics smuggling, as well as other illegal activities across state borders.

Both sides also decided to prepare an interstate project named "Agreement on Problems of Border Protection." The Russian side handed over to the commander of the Latvian Border Guard a draft proposal of the above agreement. The border guard commanders also made a decision to submit a proposal to the respective higher level officials, suggesting to settle matters concerning the border between Russia and Latvia in accordance with international laws, and to speed up the concluding of agreements "On authorized representatives of the border" and "On simplified order of crossing the border between Russia and Latvia for inhabitants of areas next to the border."

During the meeting, the question of Abrene was also discussed, as well as a common visa area in the three Baltic states.

Gailis Holds Talks on Armed Forces Reorganization

LD0111150194 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1400 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Maris Gailis met the leadership of the national armed forces and the Ministry of Defense today at the Ministry of Defense to discuss operational issues. The main subjects discussed were reorganization of the defense forces and the creation of a Baltic peace-keeping battalion. The need to draft a new defense concept and analysis of threat was indicated. According to the leadership of the ministry, it is necessary to create a military police force which would guard army facilities and take over hydrography and cartography work to avoid the duplication of functions.

Government Approves European Integration Bureau

LD0111194494 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1900 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Today the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a resolution to set up a European Integration Bureau. Its basic task is to promote the admission of Latvia into the European Union. The bureau will be under the aegis of the Foreign Ministry which will pursue the modification of Latvia's legislation to correspond to the requirements of the European Union. The Bureau is due to be created by the beginning of next year. It is planned to incorporate within the institution 26 working groups to provide for Latvia's integration into the European Union in its (various) branches. The working groups will include representatives of the relevant ministries involved.

Foreign Minister Valdis Birkavs told a press conference that the European Integration Bureau will [words indistinct], the mandates of the European Union [words indistinct].

Minister for Social Affairs Post Planned

WS0211121694 Tallinn BNS in English 1639 GMT 1 Nov 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, Nov 01, BNS—The government of Prime Minister Maris Gailis will include a state minister for social affairs and the post will, presumably, be filled by Welfare Ministry's social assistance department director Vladimir Makarov.

The parliament presidium has put the issue on the agenda of the Thursday plenary session although the issue could also be rescheduled for next week to allow factions to acquaint with the candidate and his plans.

The minister for social affairs should concentrate on issues of social allowances, assistance and pensions. This post is created to order the Welfare Ministry structure, said Latvia's Way faction deputy chairman Peteris Elferts.

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